

The mind-game appeal of fencing outweighs the gallantry of the sword waving Zorro. **Page 16**



Shadow puppets are another 'endangered species' among China's folk arts. **Page 10**



The betrayal of his girlfriend turned out to work as an impetus for Zhe Ya. **Page 9**



# BEIJING TODAY

FRIDAY MARCH 21 2003

NO. 96

CN11-0109

HTTP://BJTODAY.YNET.COM

# Bombs Blast Baghdad

**T**he US-led strike against Iraq began at dawn Thursday (about 10:40 am Beijing time), with bombs and cruise missiles hitting Baghdad.

Two of six Iraqi scud missiles fired into northern Kuwait after the attack was launched were intercepted by patriot missiles, Kuwait's Ministry of Defense confirmed. No damage or casualties have been reported.

Three US warships and an undisclosed number of F-117 warplanes took part in the attacks, firing 40 Tomahawk cruise missiles and precision-guided missiles in the first three rounds.

Iraqi anti-aircraft forces returned fire at the US warplanes.

Witnesses said many parts of Baghdad were hit in the bombardment, with fire apparently being concentrated on the eastern part of the city.

Official Iraqi TV broadcast patriotic songs during the course of the attack, showing no coverage of the US offensive.

Some 300 Iraqi refugees, who were fleeing their homes after the US launched the air raids, arrived in the Iraqi-Jordanian border areas, the Saudi based Al Arabia TV reported.

A little over two hours after the expiry of his 48-hour ultimatum for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his sons to leave their country or face war, US president George W. Bush said in a televised address to the nation that the war was still in its early stages.

Uday, the eldest son of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein announced Thursday morning that Iraq has launched a Jihad (Holy War) against US aggression.

The declaration of war follows the failure of the US, Britain and Spain to win majority support in the UN Security Council for their draft resolution that would have authorized a war on Iraq.

Three permanent members of the Security Council - China, France and Russia, opposed the US-led military attack on Iraq, insisting that weapons inspections should continue.

According to the International Red Cross, during the initial bombardment of Baghdad, there was at least one confirmed casualty and 16 people suffered injuries.

(Edited by Xiao Rong)



US guided-missile cruiser USS Bunker Hill launches a Tomahawk missile strike on Iraq Thursday.

Xinhua Photos

## China Urges Immediate Halt to Military Action against Iraq

China has issued a strong appeal for the immediate halt of military action against Iraq and a return to the right track of seeking a political solution to the issue, Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan said Thursday.

Kong said Chinese leaders have, on many occasions, enunciated the Chinese government's principled position on the Iraq issue, which is in accordance with the strong aspirations of the world's people for peace.

The military actions against Iraq, carried out despite opposition from most countries and peoples across the world and bypassing the United Nations Security Council, violate the UN Charter and the basic norms of international law, he stressed.

China evacuated all its nationals, including diplomats and journalists, from Iraq and closed its embassy in Baghdad two days ago.

Kong also said that the safety of foreign citizens and embassies in China "will be ensured," as the Chinese government attaches great importance to the safety of foreign citizens, embassies and organizations in China.

On Japan's support of the military actions against Iraq, Kong said China hopes Japan would be "very prudent" in participating in any military actions overseas.

(Xinhua)

EDITOR: LIU FENG DESIGNER: LI SHI

## George W. Bush Addresses US

**M**y fellow citizens, at this hour, American and coalition forces are in the early stages of military operations to disarm Iraq, to free its people and to defend the world from grave danger.

On my orders, coalition forces have begun striking selected targets of military importance to undermine Saddam Hussein's ability to wage war. These are opening stages of what will be a broad and concerted campaign.

More than 35 countries are giving crucial support, from the use of naval and air bases, to help with intelligence and logistics, to the deployment of combat units. Every nation in this coalition has chosen to bear the duty and share the honor of serving in our common defense.

To all of the men and women of the United States armed forces now in the Middle East, the

peace of a troubled world and the hopes of an oppressed people now depend on you.

That trust is well placed.

The enemies you confront will come to know your skill and bravery. The people you liberate will witness the honorable and decent spirit of the American military.

In this conflict, America faces an enemy who has no regard for conventions of war or rules of morality. Saddam Hussein has placed Iraqi troops and equipment in civilian areas, attempting to use innocent men, women and children as shields for his own military - a final atrocity against his people.

I want Americans and all the world to know that coalition forces will make every effort to spare innocent civilians from harm.

We come to Iraq with respect for its citizens, for their great civilization and for the religious



faiths they practice. We have no ambition in Iraq, except to remove a threat and restore control of that country to its own people.

My fellow citizens, the dangers to our country and the world will be overcome. We will pass through this time of peril and carry on the work of peace. We will defend our freedom. We will bring freedom to others. And we will prevail.

May God bless our country and all who defend her.

(An edited transcript of George W. Bush's televised address Thursday.)



**I**n the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate ... Those who are oppressed are permitted to fight and God is capable of making them victorious. God is Greatest.

To the great people of Iraq, to our brave strugglers, to our men in the heroic armed forces, to our glorious [Arab] nation: at dawn prayers today on March 20 2003 (17 Muharram 1424), the criminal, reckless little Bush and his aides committed this crime that he was threatening to commit against Iraq and humanity.

## Saddam Hussein Addresses Iraq

He executed his criminal act with his allies. Thereby he and his followers have added to the series of shameful crimes committed against Iraq and humanity.

To the Iraqis and the good people of our nation. Your country, your glorious nation and your principles are worth the sacrifices of yourself, your souls, your family and your sons.

You brave men and women of Iraq: You deserve victory and glory and everything that elevates the stature of the faithful before their God and defeats the infidels, enemies of God and humanity at large.

You are already victorious with the help of God. Your enemies will be in disgrace and shame.

To you friends, opposed to the evil in the world, peace upon you: Now that you have seen how the reckless Bush belittled your positions and views against the war

and your sincere call for peace, he has committed his despicable crime today.

We pledge to you ... that we will fight the invaders. And, God willing, we will take them to the limit at which they will lose their patience and any hope to achieve what they have planned and what the Zionist criminal has pushed them to do ...

Iraq will be victorious, God willing.

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar [God is Greatest], long live Iraq and Palestine, Allahu Akbar, long live our glorious nation, long live human brotherhood, long live lovers of peace and security and those who seek the right of people to live in freedom, based on justice ...

(An edited translation of Saddam Hussein's televised address Thursday, as published in *The Guardian*)



# Mixed World Reaction to War

By Ted Anthony, AP Writer

Unease, resolve and open outrage echoed across a connected world Thursday as the United States opened its war against Iraq.

"This is the beginning of the end of the domination of Western nations," filmmaker Mahesh Bhatt said in India. Iran's foreign minister, Kamal Kharrazi, called the military action "unjustifiable and illegitimate."

Support for Washington came from, among others, staunch US allies Britain and Japan.

"Iraq has continued to ignore the United Nations resolutions and has not acted sincerely. Therefore, I understand and support US action to disarm Iraq," Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said as hunger strikers protested outside the American Embassy in Tokyo.

Weeks of tension and failed diplomacy produced immediate reactions of dismay and fear.

"It's a wrong war at a wrong time," said 35-year-old Sean Bowman of London, drinking beer in a Hong Kong bar and — like much of the world — watching events unfold on CNN.

In Beijing, officers cordoned off the street in front of Iraq's embassy and demanded identification for all passing. A few blocks away, at the American Embassy, security was at its highest level since the September 11 attacks.

Stocks were higher in markets across the Asia-Pacific region early on Thursday, with traders betting the war would end quickly. Tokyo's 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average was up by 1.90 percent at 8,204.25 in the afternoon, while prices rose by 3.25 percent in Seoul.

In Afghanistan, where the US military is still hunting al-Qaida members, residents of the capital, Kabul, condemned the United States and its allies.

"Today is a dark day for Muslims," said Sher Aga, 50, who teaches military aviation at the Air Force Academy in Kabul. "My heart is crying for the nation of Iraq. I hope the aggressors will be buried." He added: "The United Nations is nothing anymore."

The Muslim Council of Britain, which worries that military action against Saddam will sour relations between Britain and Islamic countries, called it a "black day in our history."

"Our government should not have been a party to this conflict which has only undermined the United Nations, our own democracy and the rule of law," said its secretary-general, Iqbal Sacranie.

In Mexico City, demonstrators outside the American Embassy waved signs reading "No to the imperialist war against Iraq" and "Bush, calm your thirst for blood."

War protests continued in places as far-flung as San Francisco, Tokyo and Sydney, Australia.

"The war has begun so we are protesting," Sydney University activist Simon Butler said. "We will not sit in class and pretend everything is normal while our government helps carry out this massacre in our name."



In Manhattan, New York, US

Xinhua Photos

## World Leaders React

### Germany stresses UN role in restoring peace in Iraq

The German government on Thursday stressed that the United Nations must play the central role in the post-war restoration of peace in Iraq.

In a statement issued shortly after the outbreak of the war, the German government said it regretted that the United States had started a war against Iraq.

Now, all must be done to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe in Iraq and the German government hopes that the war will be as short as possible, it said.

### Putin calls for end to US war on Iraq

Russian President Vladimir Putin Thursday described US war on Iraq as unjustified and a "serious political mistake," calling for the United States to stop the military action immediately.



In front of the White House, Washington, US

"Military action can in no way be justified. Military action is a big political error," Putin told senior ministers at an urgent Russian security meeting in the

Kremlin.

"There was no need" for war because UN-led weapons inspections in Iraq had brought about some positive results, the Russian leader added.

### French political parties condemn US-led Iraq war

Leaders of major French political parties on Thursday strongly condemned the US-led war on Iraq, saying the unilateral military action without UN approval was a threat to world peace.



In front of the US embassy, Rome, Italy

Francois Hollande, secretary-general of the Socialist Party of France, said his party "condemns the American intervention in Iraq," which "constitutes a dangerous precedent."

Meanwhile, Jean-Pierre Chevenement, honorary president of the Republican and Citizen Movement, also expressed opposition to the US-led war.

"Everybody knows that the real goal of the Iraq war is to take control of the entire Middle East region, where a big amount of natural resources is in store," he said.

The French government on Thursday expressed deep concern

over the US military attacks against Iraq which started early Thursday morning and called for an end to the conflict "as soon as possible."

"As the first military operation in Iraq starts, the French authorities express their deep concern," Foreign Ministry spokesman Francis Rivasseau said in a statement.

### Turkish president strongly opposes US war on Iraq

Turkish President Ahmet Necdet Sezer Thursday voiced his strong opposition to US "unilateral" military action against Iraq, the Anatolia news agency reported.

Sezer said he did not think "the US unilateral action is right," stressing that any strike on Iraq must be carried out with "international legitimacy."

The president made the comments hours ahead of the Turkish parliament's vote on a motion that would give a green light to US use of its airspace.

### Thailand supports UN resolution on Iraq crisis

Thailand has always supported relevant United Nations resolutions on the Iraq crisis and wishes



New York, US

"a swift end" to the current war against Iraq, the Foreign Ministry said on Thursday afternoon.

"Thailand holds out the hope that the current military operations will be brought to a swift end so as to minimize the damages and losses inflicted upon the Iraqi civilians and the general population," said the statement.

The statement confirmed the existing cooperation between Thailand and the United States in the field of security and in fighting the threat of terrorism, but underlined "this does not include participation in military actions."

The Thai government also expressed its wish to provide humanitarian assistance to Iraqi people and help reconstruct Iraq, said the statement.

### "We've been left with no option," Straw says

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said on Thursday that the United States and Britain were left with no option but to use force against Iraq.

Meanwhile, the foreign secretary sent a message to the Iraqi people: "We are with you. We support you."

The Iraqi people's suffering under Saddam Hussein's regime will end and Britain will stand together with the international community to address the reconstruction program in a post-war Iraq, he added.

### Australia prays

As Saddam Hussein's last chance to avert invasion slipped away and air-raid sirens wailed across Baghdad, Australia's leader



Tokyo, Japan

prayed for coalition forces while police in Tokyo tightened security around the US Embassy where peace demonstrators staged a protest fast.

One of US President George W. Bush's staunchest supporters, Australian Prime Minister John Howard went to church in Canberra to pray for the safe return of the 2,000 Australian troops that he has committed to the US-led coalition.

Howard is scheduled to go on television later on Thursday to explain his stand to Australians, most of whom are skeptical about the wisdom of war.

A poll released Tuesday showed 71 percent of voters oppose Australian involvement in US-led strikes on Iraq without an explicit UN mandate. Protest groups were preparing for rallies in major cities this weekend. (Xinhua / AP)

## The World on the War

How the international press views the attack on Iraq

### Saudi Arabia, Nicolas Buchele in the Arab News

The new totalitarian regime prevailing in America and taking hold in its satellites around the world has learned important lessons from the failed experiments of the past. The first of these lessons is that the greatest liability to the survival of a regime is a strong and erratic leader.

The leader has been eliminated as a factor in US politics. George W. Bush's very nullity as a politician throws into relief the fact that the United States has

long been governed, not by its people, but by interests that are happy to remain largely anonymous, do not rely on individuals for their hold on power, and are recognizable in public mainly by a soothing corporate blue.

Americans often seem baffled that others fail to admire their system of government. They know after all that in the United States there exists a lively culture of debate, where the whole lunatic spectrum of opinion can find a platform of one kind or another (though at the same time the dif-

ference between the political parties it is actually possible to elect is vanishingly small).

They have a vibrant and largely unchecked artistic community. They have the First Amendment.

The reason for all this is that the new totalitarianism has learned a second lesson from its heavy-handed predecessors. If artists and intellectuals were able to do precisely nothing about any of the legion of tin-pot dictators around the world, it follows that you might as well have freedom of expression.

In the new totalitarian system, people can say whatever they like, and it makes absolutely no difference.

The impending war on Iraq is only one example among many of a supposedly sovereign public completely powerless in the face of a government bent on a course of action.

The most important lesson of the new totalitarianism, then, comes from ancient Rome, and is simply that people sufficiently supplied with bread and games will put up with anything.

### Jordan, Editorial from the Jordan News Agency

As the United States goes to war, Jordanians and Arabs find themselves haunted by the same question that they have been asking Washington for the past few months: what is the plan? Speaking after the Azores

summit on Sunday, President George W. Bush reiterated his commitment to a "unified" Iraq. What Bush has failed to mention so far is how he intends to keep Iraq united, how he intends to foster the emergence of a representative administration including all ethnic and religious components of Iraqi society.

No Jordanian, no Arab has ever bought, even for one single second, Bush's blabbering about bringing democracy to this region. A democratic government in Baghdad would reflect people's anger and revulsion against US policies, and translate it into policies.

### Israel, Editorial from Haaretz

It would, without a doubt, have been preferable if American diplomacy had succeeded in gaining more widespread military and diplomatic support for

the campaign against Iraq. For a short moment, following 9/11, it had seemed that the nations of the world planned to join forces in the battle against global terrorism. But with time, it transpired that selfish concerns of certain states — in particular, the temptation to gnaw at the puissance of a wounded superpower — have overcome even the universal interest in stripping a tyrant like Saddam Hussein of his ability to strike.

To the good fortune of the Iraqi leader's victims, the United States has not weakened in its resolve to oust Saddam, despite the problems and disappointments encountered en route. Israel, which has placed itself firmly in the pro-American camp, hopes for a hasty outcome, with a minimum of losses.

(Compiled by Laura McClure, Salon.com)









*Iraqis praying in the shadow of war*



*Blix and El-Baradi present reports to the Security Council*



*Au Revoir*



*Iraq's 20,000 page weapon report*

## From Inspections to War

**1991**  
**May:** First UN weapons inspection group enters Iraq.

**1993**  
**October:** Iraq forbids US weapons inspectors, whom it accuses of spying, from entering the country.

**1998**  
**October:** Iraq ceases all cooperation with UN weapons inspections.

**November:** The UN Security Council agrees on Resolution No.1205 requiring Iraq to cooperate immediately, unconditionally and completely with weapons inspections. Iraq accepts.

**December 17:** The US and UK begin "Desert Fox" military strikes against targets inside Iraq. Iraq again ceases cooperation with weapons inspectors.

**1999**  
**December 17:** The UN Security Council reaches resolution No.1248, founding the UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspections Commission headed by Hans Blix, replacing the former "Special Committee", to inspect and destroy weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. Iraq refuses to cooperate with the committee.

**2001**  
**February 26:** Iraq restarts weapons inspection dialogue with the UN, but no progress is made in the following meetings.

**September 11:** September 11 attacks draw world attention to terrorism. The US links Iraq with its anti-terrorism campaign.

**2002**  
**January 20:** Saddam Hussein and aides meet to discuss the mobilization of Iraqis against a possible US strike, according to the official Iraqi News Agency.

**January 24:** Russia's foreign minister warns the US against moving the anti-terrorism campaign to Iraq, saying it would encourage terrorists instead of crushing them.

**January 29:** In his State of the Union speech, US president Bush

labels Iraq as part of the "axis of evil" that also includes Iran and North Korea, all of whom, he says, threaten the world with weapons of mass destruction.

**February 5:** The UN says Iraq is prepared to resume dialogue on weapons inspections.

**February 11:** Russian President Vladimir Putin warns the US against military action against Iraq, saying the situation in the Persian Gulf nation is different from Afghanistan and that only the UN Security Council could authorize an attack.

**February 13:** President Bush says he would consider a wide range of options to oust Saddam Hussein including a military strike.

**February 26:** US officials confirm that small groups of American diplomats and intelligence analysts have been infiltrating northern Iraq periodically to confer with Kurds and other opponents of the Baghdad regime.

**March 1:** Iraq announces it has challenged Britain to prove it is developing weapons of mass destruction, saying it is ready to receive any British team in the country "right now."

**March 7:** Iraq and the UN hold their first high-level talks in a year, a day after the US charges that Saddam Hussein is illegally trying to build up his military with trucks obtained through a humanitarian program. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan later says that the talks got off to "a good start" and will resume next month.

**March 12:** During a tour of the Middle East, US Vice President Dick Cheney is received coolly as he tries to drum up support for an attack on Iraq. The responses include a public warning from Jordanian King Abdullah II that war on Iraq could destabilize the region and undermine US gains in Afghanistan.

**March 29:** US defense officials acknowledge that more US forces

have been landing in Kuwait in recent months and even more ground troops could be on the way.

**April 7:** Saddam Hussein vows to defeat the US if it attacks Iraq and to continue supplying the Palestinians "with every means by which they can defend themselves.... We will fight with missiles, warplanes, marsh reeds and even stones and they will be defeated." British Prime Minister Tony Blair makes the strongest signal yet he would back US military action against Iraq.

**May 14:** The UN Security Council revamps UN sanctions against Iraq to speed the delivery of food and medicine and strengthen an 11-year-old military embargo.

**June 21:** US says Iran and Iraq have served as corridors for al-Qaida fighters going home to Arab countries from Afghanistan, and says Iran sheltered some members of the terrorist organization.

**July 5:** After two days of talks, the UN says it has failed to convince Baghdad to allow the return of UN weapon inspectors.

**August 1:** In a surprise move, Iraq invites chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix to Baghdad for talks it says could lead to a return of inspectors after nearly four years.

**August 5:** General Tommy Franks, who oversaw the war in Afghanistan, presents President Bush and his key advisers with the latest Pentagon scenario for a US attack on Iraq. Secretary General Kofi Annan says he will write to Iraq seeking clarification on whether it agrees to the UN plan for the return of weapons inspectors.

**August 7:** Saudi Arabia says it will not give the US access to its air bases for an attack on Iraq, but the kingdom does not plan to expel American forces from an air base used for flights to monitor Iraq.

**August 8:** Saddam tells his nation that anyone who attacks Iraq will die in "disgraceful fail-

ure."

**August 16:** Chief UN weapons inspector Hans Blix says that he can't say with certainty that Baghdad actually has weapons of mass destruction. Blix says inspectors still have "many open questions" about Iraq's capability.

**August 17:** Iraq's ambassador says that Iraq and Russia are close to signing a \$40 billion economic cooperation plan, a deal that could put Moscow at odds with the US.

**August 25:** A US-British air raid in Basra leaves eight civilians dead and nine wounded, according to Iraq.

**August 26:** Vice President Dick Cheney says Bush would not need congressional approval to attack Iraq.

**September 2:** Iraq says it is ready to discuss a return of UN inspectors, but only in the context of ending sanctions and restoring Iraqi sovereignty.

**September 3:** US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld says the White House believes Iraq is close to developing nuclear weapons.

**September 4:** Bush promises to seek Congress' approval for "whatever is necessary" to oust Saddam Hussein.

**September 13:** An Iraqi official says Baghdad opposes new weapons inspections and Bush's speech to the UN was "full of lies."

**September 16:** Iraq makes a surprise announcement that it will accept renewed inspections.

**September 24:** British Prime Minister Tony Blair says Iraq has a growing arsenal of chemical and biological weapons and plans to use them.

**September 28:** Iraq rejects a US-British plan to force Iraq to disarm and open palaces for inspection, warning it would stage a fierce defense if allies attack.

**October 11:** The US Congress gives approval for President Bush to use military force to destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction "whenever needed."

**November 6:** The US presents a revised resolution proposal on disarming Iraq to the UN Security Council.

**November 8:** The UN Security Council reaches resolution No.1441, reinforcing the inspection of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and warning Iraq of "serious results" if it does not cooperate with the UN inspectors.

**November 13:** Iraq accepts resolution No.1441.

**December 7:** Iraq delivers a 20,000 page weapons declaration to the UN, a day ahead of the December 8 deadline as set in resolution No.1441. The declaration was defined by the US and allies as meaningless.

**November 27:** The UN inspection Group starts inspection work in Iraq.

**2003**  
**January 8:** US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld confirms that the US is building up its forces in the Persian Gulf.

**January 10:** "Peaceful Tomorrows", a US anti-war group, prays for peace with Iraqis in Baghdad, part of a worldwide anti-war movement.

**January 20:** US advises Saddam Hussein go into exile. On the same day, British Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon says a total of 30,000 British troops are to be deployed to the Gulf in preparation for a possible war against Iraq.

**January 21:** Iraq reaches a 10-point joint statement with the UN, pledging to boost cooperation with UN weapons inspectors.

**January 27:** Hans Blix and Mohamed El-Baradi, secretary general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), present their inspection reports to the Security Council.

**February 5:** US Secretary of State Colin Powell delivers his speech at a Security Council meeting on Iraq, presenting evidence of Iraq's failure to cooperate with the weapons inspectors, its

development of weapons of mass destruction and its relations with terrorists.

**February 25:** The US, UK and Spain present a new Iraq resolution draft to the UN, declaring that Iraq "has failed to take the final opportunity afforded to it in resolution 1441" and requiring a vote by the UN Security Council by mid-March on a deadline for a military solution to the Iraqi disarmament issue.

**February 25:** France, Germany and Russia present a memo at the UN Security Council calling for disarming Iraq through step-by-step inspections, a counter-proposal to the draft resolution presented by the US, Britain and Spain.

**March 7:** China reiterates opposition to a second resolution on Iraq. Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan says that China opposes introducing a new UN resolution on Iraq, "particularly one that authorizes military force." He stresses that the Iraqi problem should be settled peacefully within the framework of the UN.

**March 8:** Hans Blix describes Iraq's cooperation with UN weapons inspectors as "active" or even "proactive", though not "immediate."

**March 16:** The US, UK and Spain abandon their effort to get a vote on their resolution in the Security Council and declare they will not issue notice before military action, following a meeting of their leaders in the Portuguese Azores islands in the Atlantic.

**March 17:** Diplomats, UN staff and journalists begin their evacuation from Iraq.

**March 18:** US President Bush delivers a 48-hour ultimatum to Saddam to flee Iraq. Saddam stays put.

**March 19:** UK Prime Minister Tony Blair wins a parliamentary vote authorizing military action in Iraq, despite suffering largest ever revolt by members of his own party.



# Great Wall Brick Returned with Remorse

By Sun Ming

On Monday, the administration office of the Badaling Great Wall released a letter received from a Canadian family apologizing for the removal of a brick of the wall.

The letter was written by a He Hanqi, a Chinese Canadian man, whose son pocketed the brick. Enclosed with the letter was the missing building block.

He's 16-year-old son came to

China for the first time as part of a tour group last summer.

"My son told me that he was very excited when he got to the Great Wall. So, when he saw a loose brick from the wall on the ground, he picked it up and brought it back as a souvenir," wrote He in the letter.

The angry father said every inch of the Great Wall is an antique, adding, "If every tourist took away a brick, the Great Wall would dis-

appear. Now my son has realized the gravity of his mistake."

Zhao Xinzong, a staff member of the Badaling administration office, told *Beijing Today*, "We'll keep the brick for future rebuilding of the Badaling Great Wall. Actually, this is the second letter like this we have received from a foreign person."

Last autumn, a Japanese father sent the office a written apology, expressing regret that his son

carved his name onto one of the bricks on the Great Wall. "The Japanese man said that he wanted like to pay for the erasing of his son's name," Zhao recalled.

He continued, "The Great Wall does not only belong to China, it's part of the world's heritage and culture. We hope people from all over the world will act to protect the Great Wall as these two fathers have done."

## Yogi Points the Way

By Chen Ying

The ancient Indian art of yoga has become a fitness craze sweeping the world, China being no exception. From March 15 to 30 at the East Lake Gymnasium, a group of around 20 people, over half local yoga instructors, participated in classes led by a true master, Dhuruv Dev Singh.

Apparently his fame in yoga circles was enough to justify the staggering enrollment fees of around 3,800 yuan per person.

Photo by Yan Tong



## Southern City Gate to be Resurrected

By Zhao Pu

Yongdingmen Gate, one of the gates that studded the old city wall, will soon be rebuilt at the southern end of the central axis of Beijing, said sources from the Beijing Bureau of Cultural Relics last Friday.

The gate was first built in 1553 in the Ming Dynasty as the front gate on the outer city wall. It was the largest and most important gate on that wall, falling at the southern end of the 7.8-kilometer central axis that runs through a number of

major sites including the Drum Tower and Forbidden City.

In the reconstruction of the capital after Liberation, the gate was deemed an obstacle to the development of a modern traffic system and was torn down in 1957 to make way for a new road.

According to Wang Xiande, senior advisor at the Beijing Research Center of Cultural Relics, the new gate will be built 40 meters north of its original location because of a nearby cloverleaf road junction.

## Today Beijing, Tomorrow the Universe

By Lily Li

With visions of tiaras in her head, Zhu Jinfeng, a 22-year-old Beijing woman, arrived at the CITS Traveling Development Building at Deshengmen last Thursday to enter the Beijing District Miss Universe contest. She said that being in the running for the Miss Universe crown was a long-cherished dream.

This is the first time China has been included as an eligible country in the contest and Chinese contestants have been accepted. The sign-up activity began on March 13 and will continue until April 1. During that time, according to international Miss Universe contest rules, any young Chinese

woman between the ages of 18 and 27 can join the competition.

The annual Miss Universe contest is one of the highest-profile beauty pageants in the world. In the 51 contests held to date, women from a total of 151 countries and areas around the globe have strutted their stuff.

The finals round of the Beijing District contest and following awards ceremony will be held on April 8. Winners of the first five places will then attend the China finals in Shandong Province in April. The newly-crowned Miss China will take her place among the contestants in the global finals of the Miss Universe contest in Panama this June.



Zhu Jinfeng

Photo by Liu Jun

## Collector Forced to Pawn Possessions

By Ivy Zhang

Li Linbin knows that his beloved personal collections are not worth a great deal, but he is trying to sell them anyway to protect the future of his family.

Li, 33, and his wife run a small newsstand, selling newspapers, magazines and new and second-hand books. Their average monthly income of 700 to 800 yuan is just enough to cover the expenses of their family, which also includes their seven-year-old daughter and Li's 82-year-old grandmother.

Life for the Lis has become even more difficult of late, however, as family matriarch Zhang Furong was hospitalized two weeks ago for heart problems, high blood pressure and tracheitis for more than 10 days. Because she does not receive a pension nor have insurance, the burden of her medical bills, a total of 5,000 yuan, fell on the shoulders of Li and his wife. It is that burden that motivated Li to begin selling off the items he has been collecting for years.

On the shelves of his home are old books and paintings, 96 posters



Photo by Chen Shuyi

of Chairman Mao, a 20-yuan bank deposit from 1958, an electricity bill from before Liberation, a black and white photo of Red Army general Xu Shiyou and many other little treasures.

"I've liked old books, photos and paintings since I was a kid," Li said. "I started to buy these things from garbage collection posts four years ago."

Choosing between keeping his collections and selling them to pay for his grandmother's treatment was very easy for Li. He is devoted to his grandmother, who raised him from the age of two after his

parents divorced.

Beijing TV and some local newspapers reported Li's story late last week. So far, he has received more than 10 visitors at his home and more than 100 phone calls with inquiries about the collections.

"Many of the visitors know what they're talking about, and have told me my stuff is not worth very much. But, they have all been warm-hearted and paid too much for things or simply given me money," Li said.

## Smoke and Mirrors Case Enters Court

By Lily Li

The Beijing Lanti Magic Store, China's first retailer of magic equipment, is being sued in the Beijing People's Court in Xicheng District for pulling the trick of selling products devoid of clear markings indicating their brand, producer and production date.

The suit was filed on March 7 by a Ms. Zheng from Yantai, Shandong Province.

Interested in dealing magic supplies in Yantai, Zheng first went to Beijing Lanti on October 11 last year. Store employees demonstrated a series of magic tricks to her, but refused to let Zheng look at the props involved until she had paid for them.

Zheng hastily forked out 29,810 yuan for 20 different items, only to later discover that they were missing the important labeling. When she tried to return the products, she was told they were non-returnable.

Ti Yueli, magician and manager of the store, said all the store's products are legal, even though they do not have complete labels. "Magic props are different from ordinary products," he said. "Because there are no

factories in China that produce magic props, we have to get our merchandise at magic expos held twice a year. These events are legal channels for purchasing goods."

Ti continued, "Magic props would lose their magic if they, like other products, had to be precisely labeled and produced in mass quantity."

These explanations have not persuaded Zheng, however, who insists all products legally sold should be properly labeled. "How can customers tell real products from fake ones without such marking?" she said.

Beijing Lanti's management insists return of the products is impossible, in part because of its no-return policy. That policy was set because magic tricks are half technology, half technique and many props are easy to assemble. According to Ti, "every set of props has an instruction card revealing the secrets behind the trick."

He added, "My salespeople told Ms. Zheng about our rule before she bought the products."

The court is currently investigating the case.

## Skilled Thieves Leave No Trace

By Sun Ming

In the past month, several apartments in the Jing'anli residential area have been broken into and burgled.

To the surprise of police investigators, however, none of the doors to these homes show signs of forced entry. Initial findings indicate that the burglaries were committed by at least one person with advanced locksmithing skills.

Li Ming, a resident of the area, told *Beijing Today* that he has seen people distributing fliers pitching locksmith training classes in his neighborhood.

"The thieves must have received such training. The flier says people can learn the simple skills to open any kind of lock for just 500 yuan," said Li. "Classes for advanced skills are said to cost 6,000 yuan or more."

According to Huang Yongqiang, manager of Beijing Yongqiang Lock Service Center, locksmith skills are closely protected.

"We only choose apprentices who have no criminal records, and normally I already know them or their parents," said Huang, who also claimed he can break nearly any lock in under

one minute.

He added that there are over 1,200 places around the city that provide lock opening services, but only around 20 are legal, meaning they have been licensed by the Public Security Bureau.

A professor from Beijing Forestry University who requested anonymity told *Beijing Today* that he taught himself how to open locks after buying *The Ultimate Spy Book* by American H. Keith Melton in the Wangfujing Bookstore.

"The book gives detailed descriptions of the techniques involved in opening locks, as well as pictures and explanations of the tools involved," he said. The professor added that initially he was very surprised to see such books were being published and distributed.

A report published in *Beijing Youth Daily* on Thursday last week wrote that the government has yet to work out regulations regarding the locksmith market.

According to that article, "Opening locks should only be the business of the police. Locksmiths should not have that right, to say nothing of their apprentices."

## Toddler Abandoned in Hospital Waiting Room

By Lily Li

A two-year-old girl with congenital heart disease was abandoned by a man in the waiting room on the second floor of the Capital Institute of Pediatrics last Thursday.

The event was captured on tape by the hospital's video monitoring system. Police from the Chaowai Street station are now working to locate the child's family and identify and find the man who left her.

Mr. Wu, who had brought his child to the hospital that day and did not want to give his full name, said he saw the abandoned girl crying at the door to the hospital elevator at around 4 pm.

"The girl was sitting, crying and yelling that she couldn't find her father. A lot of people took pity on her and some even brought her snacks, but she kept on crying," he recalled.

In a pocket of the girl's jacket, Wu found a note from a heart X-ray examination conducted Decem-



A video capture of the man who deserted the two-year-old girl (right)

ber 17 last year at the institute. That showed the girl had the congenital disease. Wu said, "As soon as I saw the note, I knew the girl was not lost, but had been abandoned by her parents."

Dr. Sun, who was on duty when the child was found and also refused to disclose her full name, said the girl's name was scratched out on the form. When Sun found the girl, she brought her back to

the office and immediately called the police.

Hospital surveillance cameras captured the whole event. At 3:17 pm, a middle-aged man brought the girl to the waiting room. By 3:49, the man had disappeared into the elevator, and the child was left alone in the last row of chairs in the room. It is not clear from the footage whether the man had taken the child to see a doctor or not.

Sun Yuning, one of the policemen that responded to Dr. Sun's call, said this kind of abandonment of a minor is a crime, and that all efforts are being made to find the man on the video and the girl's parents.

The girl is currently living in an empty ward of the hospital under the care of doctors and nurses. Dr. Sun said her illness is not serious, but admitted that if no one comes to pick up the child, the hospital will have to send her to an orphanage.



# City Checking Genetic Modification Marking

By Shan Jinliang

The local government announced the launch of its first official investigation of genetically modified (GM) food products last Friday. The checks, which will run until May, are aimed at ensuring all GM goods on the market are properly labeled.

The investigations will mainly cover soybean and soy-based products and involve GM food product researchers, manufacturers, processors and dealers. Any individuals or organizations found to have failed to properly label GM

products will face fines of 10,000 yuan to five times the amount of revenues brought in by the illegal GM foods, as well as the complete halt of their production lines and research.

This move is one part of a national campaign being led by the Ministry of Agriculture to put clear markings on all GM food products. Although two years have passed since the State Council issued management methods for security of GM products, which include stipulations about clear marking, not one GM food product put on the

market has been properly labeled, according to *the Bund*, a Shanghai-based weekly newspaper, last week.

Cheng Xianlu, director of the Beijing Agricultural Bureau and leader of the local investigations, said that the national ministry has checked and approved 1,275 imported GM food products and issued 778 temporary approval certificates for GM food products. Among them, 15 Beijing companies have received certification to put GM marks on their products.

Ms. Wu, head of the bureau's sci-

entific education division and who refused to give his complete name, told *Beijing Today* on Tuesday that a one week period will be given to companies who have been approved to use GM labels so that they can prepare to apply the markers, meaning the investigations will officially start in the next few days. Inspections of GM food research institutes will commence in May.

The official added that GM labeling does not mean a product is safe, it is only meant to give people the means to make informed grocery shopping choices.

## Ten Design Institutes Qualify for 2008 Swimming Center

Ten design institutes and consortia have been pre-qualified to vie for the design of the National Swimming Center, one of the landmark buildings for the 2008 Olympic Games, announced Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., the official operator of the center, in Beijing last Friday.

A total of 33 design institutes and consortia from 13 countries and regions, including China, Japan, France, Britain, Germany, Australia and the United States, had lodged bids for the project by the deadline of February 20.

Representatives of Beijing State-owned Assets Management said the 10 institutes and consortia have until June 18 to submit their designs for the facility.

By August 15, an evaluation panel consisting of architects, engineers, Olympic experts and government officials will choose three designs to enter the final round of competition. Construction of the swim center is slated to start on December 12.

The 10 design institutes and consortia that made the shortlist will be awarded \$80,000 dollars each and the submitters of the three designs that enter the finals will receive an extra \$80,000 dollars.

The National Swimming Center will be located in the western part of the Olympic Green and have a total area of 70,800 square meters.

The 17,000-seat facility will host the swimming, diving, synchronized swimming and water polo events during the 2008 Olympics. After the Games, it will be transformed into a multi-functional aquatic recreation center. (Xinhua)

## FedEx Airlifts Pandas from Beijing to Memphis

By Su Wei

A FedEx Express MD-11 jet, dubbed "The FedEx Panda Express" and painted with a picture of a panda, will fly two pandas from Beijing to the Memphis Zoo in the US state of Tennessee on April 7. The two endangered animals are part of an education and conservation program organized by the China Zoos Association and the Memphis Zoo.

Le Le, a four-year-old male panda, and Ya Ya, a two-year-old female, are currently staying in the Shanghai Zoo and Beijing Zoo. For the 15-hour flight, they will be put into custom-built containers. "The pandas are the only passengers on this special trans-Pacific shipment, besides the team of veterinarians from the three zoos that will accompany them," said Eddy Chan, FedEx Express China and Mid Pacific regional vice president.

He continued that the company has paid close attention to the special conditions needed for the shipment, such as the containers, the accompanying veterinarians, maintaining a constant temperature during the flight, and providing fresh bamboo from Wolong, Sichuan Province.

The company has also waived its usual transportation fees for its unusual customers. Chan said, "The cost of just a basic flight on a MD-11 jet between China and the US is \$400,000. But, we see this trip as something that should not have a price tag."

According to Xie Zhong, vice secretary general of the China Zoos Association, the two pandas and any babies they may have will return to China in 10 years.



Professor Xiang Bing (right), director of Beijing's Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business, met with students hoping to enroll in the school's 2003 spring EMBA Program last Saturday in the Grand Hyatt Hotel. The graduate school was established by the Li Ka Shing Foundation in 2002, and offers Executive Master of Business Administration, full-time Master of Business Administration and Executive Development programs.

Xinhua Photo



Xinhua Photo

## Mourns Inspector

The remains of Yu Jianxing, the Chinese chemical expert on a UN inspection mission who died last Thursday in a road accident in Iraq, arrived in Beijing Wednesday from Baghdad via Cyprus.

## First Foreign QFII Custodial Banks Approved

By Shan Jinliang

The first three foreign banks allowed to be custodians for qualified foreign institutional investors (QFIIs) were named by the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) last week, following the approval of five domestic banks in late February.

The three banks are the Shanghai branches of HSBC, Ci-

tibank and Standard Chartered Bank. They will join the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), the Bank of China, China Agricultural Bank, China Bank of Communications and China Construction Bank as QFII custodial banks.

China issued trial QFII regulation last December, opening the door for foreign firms to trade

shares in the previously domestic-only A-Share market. According to that regulation, QFIIs can trade listed A-share stocks, state bonds, convertible bonds and corporate bonds. In an article in *Beijing Youth Daily* on Wednesday, a CSRC spokesman said that open-ended funds, right issue and new issue have been approved for foreign investors.

## Bar Airs Law Firm's Dirty Laundry

By Ema Ma

The Beijing Municipal Bureau of Justice and the Beijing Bar Association held a press conference last Thursday to make public the legal violations of the Beijing Guangming Law Firm and its director, Zhang Weihua. Customers filed three complaints against the firm last year, accusing it of failing to send indictments to courts in time for their law suits to be processed.

This was the first time the association has gone public with reports of wrong doing by lawyers. However, with the establishment of a lawyer integrity information system in the near future, records on integrity and information on lawyers' backgrounds, partner profiles, charge rates and past infractions will be just a telephone call or web surf away.

Dong Chunjiang, director of the Beijing Justice Bureau, said that all the 7,700 lawyers and 595 law offices in Beijing are subject to public supervision. Consumers can call the association to report breaches of their rights by law firms at 82025869 or 82025766 ext. 111.

## Government Green Lights Foreign Mergers

By Ema Ma

A regulation that specifies the principles, procedures and approval for mergers and acquisitions of domestic companies by foreign investors was issued last Thursday by the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, State Administration of Taxation, State Administration of Industry and Commerce and State Administration of Foreign Exchange. The new rules will take effect April 12.

According to the regulation, foreign investors can purchase domestic companies through equity buyout, purchasing stock or subscribing shares when a company increases issue, or by asset buyout or purchasing and operating a domestic company's assets.

In general, foreign investors' capital investments should account for no less than 25 percent of a company's registered capital after acquisition.

According to China Ecapiatal, a domestic investment bank that specializes in mergers, 80 percent of international capital flow worldwide takes the form of buyouts, while it only accounts for around 10 percent of total foreign investment in China.

Despite the lack of adequate policy support, by the end of last November, 93 foreign acquisitions had occurred in this country with a total transaction value of over \$5 billion.

The government has been trying to expedite foreign acquisitions by issuing a series of statutes over the past year, including the revised foreign investment guidance that came out last April, rules on the purchase of listed companies that debuted last September, and rules that allow the purchase of unlisted state-owned or cooperate shares, allow dealing of freely-traded shares by qualified foreign institutional investors, and stipulate the reorganization of state-owned enterprises with foreign investment, all issued last November.

## Smooth Way Paved for Overseas Capital

By Ema Ma

On March 5, the Beijing Municipal Government issued a notice giving district and county government bodies the right to approve foreign investment not bound by administrative restrictions or amounting to less than \$30 million. The transfer of the approval power to lower level governments is another measure intended by the Beijing government to increase efficiency and improve the foreign investment environment in the capital and its surrounding areas.

Foreign companies planning to invest \$10 million to \$30 million to establish enterprises can apply to any district or country government for approval or to change registration information.

## Overseas Firms to Weigh In on Urban Planning

By Ema Ma

With the passage of the Regulation on Foreign Invested Urban Planning Enterprises in February, the capital and other Chinese cities may soon change in unexpected ways. The law was issued by the Ministry of Construction and Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation and will go into effect as of May 1.

According to the regulation, foreign designers can set up urban design joint venture companies and wholly-owned offices in China and apply for licenses to provide urban design and consulting services, although they cannot participate in overall city planning.

To receive approval, foreign-invested urban design firms must satisfy the following requirements: employ over 20 professionals proficient in city planning, architecture, landscaping and forestation; have a workforce made up of no less than 25 percent expatriate professionals; and expatriate professionals on staff should stay in China at least six months each year they are employed.

Compared with the two regulations on foreign-invested joint-venture architectural firms and foreign-invested construction engineering enterprises that took effect December 1 last year, the new urban design regulation has evoked relatively limited response from foreign interests.

Han Xiaohua, chief representative of the Beijing office of the design firm Kajima, a Fortune 500 company, told *Beijing Today*, "Foreign architecture offices are more actively involved in engineering contracting and building design than urban design. Right now, we have to focus on establishing architecture joint ventures before this October to continue doing contracting in China as stipulated by last December's rule. Furthermore, the regulation that foreign designers must obtain licenses from the Chinese government is not reasonable, because most don't have the Chinese language skills needed to pass the licensing exams."



# Growth in Management Salaries Slows

By Su Wei

An article in *Manager* magazine reports that salaries of management staff in China are becoming more market-oriented.

The magazine surveyed some 800 managers in private, state-owned and joint venture companies in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Guangzhou this January. Over 64 percent earn over 5,000 yuan per month, and received a pay rise in the past 12 months.

Of these, over 32 percent received a salary rise between 10 and 20 percent, followed by 29 percent with a rise of up to 10 percent and 22 percent whose pay rise was between 20 and 30 percent. Only 16 percent saw their salary increase by over 30 percent. Around 60 percent of the managers said they were satisfied with their current salary.

According to the *Manager* article, the rate of salary rises has been slowing, and will continue to slow this year, which is consistent with the transforming of China's economic system and reforms in those enterprises following China's WTO entry.

## Beijing's advantages

The survey names Beijing as the most attractive city for managers in terms of their personal development. "Salaries in Beijing on the whole are higher than in the other three cities, though Shanghai has the largest number of managers with an annual salary of up to 800,000 yuan, and Guangzhou has the largest number of managers with an annual salary above 150,000 yuan," the article says.

Yang Junjie, vice-editor in chief of *Manager*, says the reason for Beijing's popularity is that salary is not

the only factor in judging how good a job is, though it is an important one.

"Besides the advantage of immediately benefiting from the latest government policies, Beijing is becoming more open to other provinces and the world, especially in terms of starting a business," says Xie Hua, marketing director of a household appliance manufacturing company.

## Bigger increases in non state-owned companies

Of all the managers with a salary increase last year, around 45 percent of managers from non state-owned enterprises had salary rises of above 20 percent last year, five and three percent more than those in foreign or joint ventures and state-owned enterprises respectively.

**Options, shares underdeveloped**

For over 50 percent of managers,

more than 80 percent of their income last year was in the form of cash. Less than three percent of managers with the income from options/shares taking over 30 percent of the total annual income, compared with around 70 percent managers with 20 percent income from options / shares.

Xiao Hai, marketing director of a listed company in Guangzhou, says while he understands that the managers' fate is bound to that of the company he works for, "Only when the company is running successfully can the manager sense his personal fate, which can also be sensed from the salary. But as far as I know, the confidence in their company of most managers does not extend to agreeing to accepting options or shares as an alternative to cash, especially for young managers."

## BMW and Brilliance JV Approved

By Ema Ma

The board of Brilliance China Auto (BCA), a red chip company listed in Hong Kong, announced last Friday the company has received government approval on a feasibility study for the establishment of joint venture between BMW and Shenyang Brilliance Jinbei Auto (Shenyang Auto), an indirect subsidiary owned 51 percent stake by the company.

After an initial proposal to set up the joint venture was approved last July, BCA encountered a series of setbacks, including equity disputes, the dismissal of its chairman and an on-going legal proceeding. Meanwhile GM, Volkswagen and other auto giants made rapid progress in breaking into the Chinese market, BMW's joint project seemed remote at that time.

According to last Friday's announcement on the Hong Kong Exchange, it is expected that the contract for the venture will be finalized and signed by the end of March or in early April. For the total 450 million euro investment, BCA and BMW will each hold a 50 percent stake in the new venture, to be located in Shenyang, Liaoning Province.

As mentioned in the announcement, production of BMW-designed sedans, with an annual capacity of 30,000 cars, will commence in the second half of this year. BCA's Hiace minibus has held the leading position in its line for several years in China.

## LG China Moves to Become Wholly-funded

By Shan Jinliang

South Korea electronics giant LG is following the lead of a number of foreign companies including Siemens, Whirlpool and Amosonic to become wholly funded entities in China. LG announced it had bought the 50 percent stake of its former partner Chunlan Group in a Zhejiang refrigerator last week.

LG is now the sole investor in the Zhejiang Taizhou refrigerator production base, which has an annual one-million-plus productivity. The factory, jointly established by the two companies in 1995, produces both Chunlan and LG branded refrigerators and compressors.

Both sides have expressed satisfaction with the deal, since Chunlan recoups US \$ 2 million, double its original investment, and LG takes control of the whole operation. LG said it hopes to build the factory into its biggest overseas base for refrigerators and develop the business into one of the top three in China in 2003.



Robert A. Mundell

## Nobel Laureate Talks Up Euro and 'AsiaDollar'

By Zhao Hongyi

The "Father of the Euro" still cares about his creation, suggesting that the currency should have a ceiling of \$1.1 in its upswing against the US dollar. "Otherwise, an over high euro will damage the competitiveness of European products and exports."

Robert A. Mundell, the 1999 Nobel Economics Award laureate, was in Beijing Tuesday to officially grant permission for his academic works to be translated and published by the China Financial Publishing House.

Divided into a series of six, the works cover academic fields of international trade, international economics, monetary policies, the history of macroeconomics and monetary policies, and currency exchanges. Translation of the works will be handled by a panel consisting of Mundell's Chinese assistants, senior

officials and researchers from the People's Bank of China, to which the publishing house is subordinated.

Mundell is also a strong supporter of an "Asian dollar." Instead of a brand new currency, as he once proposed, he recommends that the major Asian countries' currencies be first tied to the US dollar, pending the creation of a new accounting unit.

"But this requires the Japanese Yen, the only possible locomotive of the unit, to stabilize against the US dollar first," Mundell said.

The almost 80 years old, but still energetic Canadian, expressed his appreciation on the Chinese government's stand of holding the value of the yuan steady, saying appreciation would damage the healthy macroeconomic growth and competitiveness of the Chinese economy. Photo by Zhuang Jian

## Telecom Giants Test the Water on One Way Fees

By Shan Jinliang

While China Netcom's PHS (Personal Handy System) phones went on sale in all 10 of Beijing Municipality's rural districts Thursday, China Mobile and China Unicom, the two largest wireless telecom operators started selling one-way fee numbers in some southern cities from Saturday.

PHS is a wireless phone technology that only charges the caller the same standard as common city phones, it has captured over 10 million users, a large number of whom are from the low-end consumers of China Unicom and Mobile.

China Mobile started promoting its one-way fee mobile service in Shenzhen on March 15. The service allows mobile users to receive calls from within the province free of charge, providing they have deposited a certain amount of money in their account. Though the service is not a truly one-way fee model, it still offers hope to Unicom and Mobile users that such a service might be on the horizon.

Meanwhile, China Unicom's Chengdu branch began selling its CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) 133 Fengxing card, with which users will be able to receive calls within the CDMA network free of charge.

Before China Telecom's PHS phones go on sale in Guangzhou, China Unicom's Guangzhou branch began promoting its "PHS Set Dish" to users in three cities near Guangzhou. All the card numbers were sold out on the first day, according to a statement by China Unicom. A report Wednesday in the Guangdong-based *Xinkuai News* commented that the move by China Mobile was an attempt to beat the growing PHS business of China Telecom and its own user number.

An IT expert who requested anonymity told the *International Financial News* Monday that Shenzhen, as well as Guangzhou are always the frontrunners in business in China, and that the promotion of one-way fees by China Unicom and Mobile will be hopefully a model for the whole country.

While arguments are looming that the one-way fees break state regulations, Wang Xudong the newly appointed Minister of Information Industry, is expected to soon release a clear policy on the issue, which could also decide the fate of PHS.

## State Post Eyes Logistics Market

By Hou Mingxin

China National Post Logistics (CNPL) signed a contract Sunday on cooperation in the logistics sector with two international and three domestic enterprises, *Beijing Youth Daily* reported on Monday.

The five enterprises are Mitsui, Kerry Logistics Network, China Kejian, Nanjing Panda Mobile and Jilin Xiuzheng Pharmaceuticals. CNPL will provide nationwide logistic services in the areas of storage and delivery, according to the contact.

The State Post Administration will pour one hundred million yuan into CNPL, in order to improve its competitive ability and extend its service area.

CNPL will also speed up construction of a nationwide service network and operation system, as well as the establishment of subsidiary companies.

Described by many local analysts as "the third source of profit," the total scale of the Chinese logistics market is forecast to reach 240 billion yuan in 2003, representing a new potential growth point for the postal sector.

The logistics income in the area of China's postal sector last year was 1.6 billion yuan, in 2003, the expected income is 3.2 billion yuan.

## 美食 · 娱乐 · 休闲 TEL: 68997124 68311626

### ZiyiXuan Baochi Lou 紫怡轩鲍翅楼

3rd Floor Building B,  
Donghuan Guangchang,  
29 Dongzhong jie,  
Dongcheng District  
东城区东中街 29 号东环广场 B 幢 3 层  
11:00-14:30, 17:00-22:00  
6856, 9388

### Beijing Roast Duck 北京烤鸭店

Building 3, Tuanjie Lake, Chaoyang District  
朝阳区团结湖北口 3 号楼  
11:40-14:00, 17:00-21:30  
6852, 4003

### Bianyifang Roast Duck Restaurant 便宜坊

2A Chongwenmenwai Dajie, Chongwen District  
崇文区崇文门大街甲 2 号  
11:00-14:00, 17:00-21:30  
Tel: 6712, 0505

## Spice Orchids Thai Restaurant

Welcome to our Spice Orchids Thai Restaurant.

Our features are undeniable: Walls decorated in purple and deep wine red; colors that really work together to produce a harmony; food that lie on in its contrasts; chefs that create a wonderful medley of hot, cool, sour, sweet, crunchy and soft dishes. Fish cake, deep-fried Taro, Green Pepper & Red Curry Fried with Beef and Minced meat fried with Basil leaves are not to be missed. And, we have an unique Chinese name, Tai Xiang La, which means Spicy Thai Restaurant, verbally; and Very Good Smell, phonetically. You're likely to satisfy your taste buds for a mere of RMB18 up, with weekday set lunch from RMB25-50. Tasty and inexpensive. A very good casual dining experience. Add: 8 South Street, Guan Dong Dian, Chaoyang District. (North of Kerry Centre Hotel and the back of Hot-Point Disco) Tel: 6591, 7726 Fax: 6591, 7926

## CLUB GREEN BEST CLUB IN BEIJING

ADD: Land mark Tower 1/F 8 North Dong San Huan Road. chaoyang District Beijing

地址: 北京市朝阳区东三环北路 8 号亮马河大厦一层

TEL: (010) 65906999 65906688 — 2988

COME & BE AS COOL AS — GREEN



### Donglaishun Restaurant 东来顺

5/F, Xindong'an Plaza, Wangfujing  
Da jie, Dongcheng District  
东城区王府井大街 新东安商场 5 层  
11:00-14:00, 17:00-21:30  
6528, 0932

### Fan Shi Gang 饭是纲

140 Andingdajie, Dongcheng District  
东城区安定大街 140 号  
9:00-23:00  
64042187

## 北京好世界阳光酒店 BEIJING FANTASY WORLD CLUB

It offers a full range of services, including fine rooms, restaurants and entertainment centre.

FU LIN Seafood Restaurant: more than 100 kinds of fresh seafood are now 20% off.

Korean Flavour Restaurant: newly open, supply Korean food and barbecue. 20% off.

Entertainment Centre: Bowling, billiards, karaoke and gymnasium.

Tel: (010) 68843388-718/620

Add: 1 Gu Cheng Nan Lu Shijingshan District

(100 meters in west from Gu Cheng metro station)

电话: (010) 68843388-718/620 (详见店内海报)

地址: 石景山区古城南路 1 号 (地铁古城站西 100 米)

## New French Restaurant Now Open!

来过罗兰·加洛斯吗?

不知你有没有来过罗兰·加洛斯, 有没有尝过这里鲜嫩的蜗牛, 有没有就着奶酪品味波尔多的葡萄酒, 有没有燃着古巴雪茄欣赏网球公开赛? 侍者是彬彬有礼的, 还能把每款酒, 每种烟的来由娓娓道出。氛围是典雅的, 还有温馨浪漫的烛光。

这里还有独具特色的网球文化主题服务: 专门从海外订购的网球历史文化资料, 精彩纷呈的网球主题活动和球友内部通讯, 主题网站与“一网打尽”网球网络联盟。

Spoil yourself with genuine French fare and ambiance and a superb variety of wines at the **Roland Garros** restaurant. Close a full evening of relaxation with a choice of dramatic desserts, coffees, and Cuban cigars.

**ROLAND GARROS**  
RESTAURANT & BAR, BEIJING, CHINA

罗兰·加洛斯 餐厅

罗兰·加洛斯网球主题法式餐厅  
Roland Garros Restaurant  
Open: 11:00-24:00 Daily

地址: 朝阳区农展南路朝阳网球俱乐部北门一层  
Address: North Entrance Chaoyang Tennis Club  
Nongzhan Nanlu, Chaoyang District  
Telephone: 6508-9100



# Dung Slung at Leung

By Sun Ming

Antony Leung Kam-chung, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, is fighting to save his political career after landing himself in hot water over a car.

On March 9, *Apple Daily*, a local newspaper in Hong Kong, reported that Mr. Leung had bought a car just before announcing tax increases on new vehicles in the March 5 Budget.

Within hours, Leung, who spent HK\$790,000 on a new Lexus in January this year, admitted that he shouldn't have bought the car before the tax increase.

Leung explained that he needed a car for his wife and newborn baby, even though he already owned a Porsche and a Jeep.

"The Porsche is a sports car and the Jeep is too high," an assistant of Leung's added.

Leung's wife is China's four-time Olympic gold medal-winning diver Fu Mingxia. Their baby daughter was born last month.

Leung denied that he had intended to evade paying extra tax. He said he would pay HK\$100,000, double the difference in price, to charity to prove his point.

Nevertheless, the incident provoked a storm of protest in Hong Kong. Democratic Party chairman Yeung Sum said the Legislative Council should establish an investigative group to look into the matter.

**Offer to resign**

On Monday last week, the day after the report in *Apple Daily*, Leung submitted a written report to Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa and offered to resign.

Leung admitted that he had made a mistake, but denied intending to evade tax.

In order to prove his sincerity, Leung increased his donation to HK\$380,000.

On the same day, Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa said Leung's action had been inappropriate, but he did not believe Leung had intentionally avoided the extra tax.

This failed to calm the protest.

"Emily Lau Wai-haing of the Frontier Party said 'the matter was not so simple', and called on Tung Chee-hwa to look into the incident. In response to the row, Secretary for Constitutional Affairs Stephen Lam Sui-lung said the government would learn from the incident," the *South China Morning Post* said on Wednesday last week.

On Saturday last week, Tung sent a letter to Leung expressing considerable concern at his "gross negligence." Tung published the letter the same day.

The chief executive said Leung had "clearly breached" the code for principal officials under the accountability system.

Leung had begun discussing an adjustment in vehicle tax on October 31, 2002, but he bought the new car during the period when the adjustment was still being considered.

The fact that he didn't report his purchase in advance aroused "public suspicions" over conflict of interest, said Tung in his letter.

"What you have done amounts to gross negligence," it read. "You indeed offered to resign on March 10. I take this as an honorable act on your part. I have come to the conclusion that your mistake warrants a formal criticism from me but not your resignation."

Mr. Tung said in his letter he understood Leung's "urgent need to buy a car".

Soon after, Leung delivered a statement, televised live, at the Central Government Offices in the evening.

"I fully accept the formal criticism

from the chief executive. I fully accept his conclusion that what I have done amounts to gross negligence and have clearly breached parts of the code for principal officials under the accountability system. I would like to make my most sincere apology to the general public. I would like to reiterate that I had no intention of evading the tax liability and that the mistake was an oversight," said Leung.

"At the request of the chief executive, I have withdrawn my offer to resign."

Democratic Party chairman Yeung Sam said he thought Mr Tung was being "a bit protective" of the financial secretary and the Frontier Party's Lee Cheuk-yan said Mr. Tung should have accepted Leung's resignation, *South China Morning Post* said on Sunday.

**Yet another apology**

On Monday this week, Leung addressed the details of the incident before the Constitutional Affairs Panel of the Legislative Council. Leung explained that he bought the car before the birth of his baby in order to set his wife's heart at rest. "I should have realized that my action might arouse 'public suspicion'."

Leung explained that he made every effort to separate official business from private business, which led to his negligence.

Leung said he had tried to avoid talking about any private business in public since his affair with Fu was revealed in March last year.

Leung and Fu's love affair came as quite a shock to most Chinese.

Fu, who is 27 years old younger than Leung, was one of the world's top divers. She got her last golden medal at the 2000 Sydney Olympic games.

Fu met Leung at a meeting held in Hong Kong in March 2001. Leung admitted that he was attracted to the young woman from Hubei Province since then.

"I'll learn a lesson from this event. Because I want to serve Hong Kong people, I left business circles and entered the government two years ago. I still want to serve the people."

**What does the Council say?**

*Wenhui Daily*, a local newspaper in Hong Kong, said on Tuesday that most members of the Legislative Council accepted Leung's explanation.

The chairman of Freedom Party Tian Beijun said that if Leung had really wanted to hide his intention of evading tax, he would have been more careful in buying the car.

"It's unlikely that Leung, who gave up his high salary two years ago, would do something like this just to avoid paying a few thousand more Hong Kong dollars," said council member Tan Zongyao.

Leung had a solid background in financing. He was once Citibank's Hong Kong head and was appointed as the bank's Asia-Pacific head based in Singapore in 1995.

In 1996, Leung jumped ship to Chase Manhattan, where he was promoted to Asia-Pacific regional head.

On May 2, 2001, Leung left Chase Manhattan Bank and became the Financial Secretary of Hong Kong. His salary fell from HK\$23,000,000 to HK\$2,450,000.

**Investigated by Hong Kong Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)**

However, council member Chen Weiye said "Leung has lost all his credibility. He should resign at once if he really wants to serve the public."

*Xin Kuai Daily*, a local newspaper in Guangzhou, said on Wednesday that Hong Kong ICAC has formally begun investigating Leung's case.



**"I fully accept the formal criticism from the chief executive. I fully accept his conclusion that what I have done amounts to gross negligence."**  
- Antony Leung Kam-chung



Xia Qianqian (right) does odd jobs in a restaurant instead of studying in South Africa.

# Fight for Your Right

It was China Consumers Rights Protection Day on March 15. On this day every year, a consolidated clear-up campaign against fake products or agencies offering dubious and illegal services is staged around the nation.

CCTV ran a special program about this day last Friday, revealing some cases in which consumers' rights had been violated.

**Dreams broken in South Africa**

Xia Qianqian, 18, went to Johannesburg in South Africa about one year ago to pursue further studies.

But after arriving in South Africa, she received just three months language training and never got to enroll as a student in the university she had been told she would enter. Instead she was forced to support herself doing odd jobs at a Chinese restaurant.

Xia comes from a poor family in Shenyang, Liaoning province. Her mother is a cleaner at a public toilet and her father is a laid off worker. The sole income of the family is the mother's monthly salary of 970 yuan.

In 2001, like many other families in Liaoning, Xia's parents were attracted by a local agency's advertisement for overseas study. It said applicants could go to the well-known Damelin University in South Africa for an annual cost of USD 1,600. No language tests or entrance examination were required. The agency also claimed the students would get a diploma issued by Britain's Oxford Brookes University.

Xia's parents withdrew their savings of 40,000 yuan and borrowed 50,000 yuan from relatives and sent Xia to South Africa.

After arriving, Xia and other students received three months of language training at Damelin University - the agency had promised to offer six months of such training.

To make things worse, the students later learned that Damelin University is a private education group and the certificates it issues are not recognized in China.

The 150 hours of language training the students received at Damelin can only certify that their English has reached primary school level. "This sheet of paper is nothing. It can be recognized nowhere," says Xia.

Liu Liang, another student from Liaoning, had been admitted by a university in China before coming to South Africa. "To tell the truth, what I was interested in was the possibility of obtaining the diploma issued by Oxford Brookes University," Liu says.

But the CCTV reporter found out that Damelin University was not authorized to issue a diploma for Oxford Brookes University.

Some students were afraid

to tell the truth to their families. They did illegal jobs at restaurants or sold things in the streets instead.

On January 31, one day prior to the Chinese Spring Festival this year, Xia was washing plates and cups in the restaurant as usual. She works 10 hours a day in the restaurant. When she called her mother, Xia cried, "I miss you. I miss home. I want to go home."

According to CCTV's investigation, all the students including Xia were sent to Damelin University through a

Zhu took his son to the best hospitals in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province for examinations and he was shocked to discover the reason his son had become deaf was an overdose of gentamicin. "It was on September 23, 1995 that I found out. I will never forget that day," Zhu says.

Zhu took the 0.8 yuan receipt to the Yunxi hospital but the hospital insisted they had actually injected 40,000 units of gentamicin and mistakenly charged Zhu for 80,000.

In January 1996, Zhu submitted an application for

200,000 yuan operation fee.

Zhu sued the hospital at the local court. But the court rejected his case in early 2001 saying it was just a medical accident. Zhu appealed to the higher court and he sought advice from medicine and legal specialists.

He bought a chime and hung it over his son's bed. Whenever he came back home, Zhu Xun would shake the chime in the hope of being able to hear something. The ten year old could say nothing except "Dad".

On December 27 last year, Yangzhou Intermediate People's Court finally ruled in favor of Zhu. The court ordered Yunxi hospital to pay 367,000 yuan in compensation.

**Fake international driver's license**

The CCTV program also revealed some cons, including a company offering fake international driver's licenses.

Zhongluo Cultural Consultancy boasted that it could offer an international driver's license allowing people to drive in 184 different countries.

"Not in Iraq or Afghanistan. But you can (use the license) in Germany, the United States and most European countries," claimed Chen Zhangzhi, the office manager of the company.

A United Nation's world map logo was printed on the cover of the so-called international driver's license. It was a simple procedure to obtain the license. No examination was required. All you needed to do was submit a photocopy of your local driver's license issued in China and pay 2,300 yuan.

A Mr. Li from Chengdu, Sichuan province, went to Hungary with his international license. When he drove a car around Budapest, he was stopped by the police for a check.

"When I showed them the international license, the police said it was fake," Li says.

Li came back to China and went to the company. "We are sorry for the inconvenience," said Sun Guohao, General Manager of the company.

But the company insisted that Li's experience was a freak occurrence and that the license was valid in other countries. "People have told us they used the license in the US. They said it was fine," says Lin Jing, deputy General Manager of the company.

However, Wang Fang, deputy director of the traffic control administration under the Ministry of Public Security said that only countries who signed the International Road Traffic Convention were eligible to issue an international driver's license.

"China has not joined the convention. Thus we are unable to issue international driver's licenses," says Wang.

*Edited by Ivy Zhang*



Ten-year-old Zhu Xun uses sign language to say "I want to hear."

**"I felt darkness in front of my eyes. It was like thunder exploding over my head. I tried hard not to fall down and tears blurred my eyes."**

— Diary entry dated June 15, 1998

woman named Dong Yongjie who did business in the name of three local agencies, which is illegal in China.

According to Chinese regulations, agencies which arrange for students to go overseas are not allowed to contract or subcontract their business to individuals.

In 2002, a total of 138,000 people went overseas to study, 90% of whom were self-supported. The number of complaints about illegal agencies has risen dramatically.

In the clear-up campaign conducted by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Security, a total of 450 agencies were punished and 140 shut down.

**Diary reveals medical tragedy**

Zhu Dinglong is the father of a ten-year-old boy. His son Zhu Xun was treated incorrectly by a local hospital and became deaf eight years ago, since when Zhu has written a diary recording his struggle for justice.

On June 10, 1995, two-year-old Zhu Xun was taken to a small local hospital named Yunxi in Jiangsu province because of a slight cough caused by a cold. He was given an injection of 80,000 units of gentamicin.

After that, Zhu noticed that his son turned from an active boy into a quiet one. His hearing also started to get worse until he eventually became virtually deaf.

a medical review at the Xingjiang District Medical Accidents Review Committee. Two months later, the committee declared Zhu's case did not constitute a medical accident.

Zhu did not give up. He consulted medicine books and found that even 40,000 units of gentamicin was over the limit for a two year old.

He applied for a medical review at Yangzhou Medical Accidents Review Committee three months later. The result came out one year after that when Zhu Xun was four years old. It said the child had suffered a Grade Three accident. But the father thought it should be a Grade Two accident.

Zhu requested a further review in 1997 at Jiangsu Provincial Health Administration. But 14 months later, the report declared it had not been a medical accident.

"I felt darkness in front of my eyes. It was like thunder exploding over my head. I tried hard not to fall down and tears blurred my eyes," the diary entry dated June 15, 1998 reads.

When Zhu Xun turned seven he still could not go to school. His speaking ability was the same as that of a one-year-old baby.

Meanwhile, the father has continued to try to find ways to help his son. In Shanghai, he was told the implanting of artificial cochlea could help his son recover his hearing ability but he was unable to afford the





Zhe waits at the local bus stop.

Photo by Wang Wei

# Back to Nature

By Zhao Pu

In 1997, Zhe Ya bought a small compound in Yaoshang village in Tongzhou District for 4,000 yuan. He was the first painter to go and live in that small village and the locals weren't happy.

"It took time for them to accept an artist as their neighbor, someone who lived such a different lifestyle from theirs," says Zhe. "I didn't cultivate land or farm, I just sat at home reading and painting things they didn't recognize. They thought someone like me should live in the city."

Zhe was regularly the subject of unkind comments from his fellow villagers at the beginning. Some of his neighbors even piled garbage outside his home. But Zhe didn't run away. He remained friendly to his neighbors and offered to help whenever there was a need. He taught the daughter of the village head how to paint, helping her pass the entrance exam to an art school.

His patience and tolerance paid off as the villagers gradually accepted him. In this small tranquil village, Zhe found his own route in art and established his "symbol of China", his own artistic version of traditional Chinese culture.

## Cultural boundaries?

"Traditional Chinese art and culture has been squeezed by western art in the past century. I don't think it's because Chinese art is inferior," says Zhe. "It took me a long time to figure out the reason. The 'language' of Chinese art is too particular in comparison with

western art. That's why it can't be fully appreciated by westerners." So he started experimenting and looking for a new form, one that was rooted in traditional Chinese culture but that could be understood universally.

Zhe had been painting with oil for 14 years but in spring 1999, he decided to drop his paints and try ink instead. He soon realized he'd hit on the answer. At night he read books on Chinese classical philosophy and literature and by day he would paint. Zhe produced several hundred works in the next four years. Zhe says the feeling of discovering the right style for him was like finding a "treasure trove". It reminded him of groping around in the underground tunnels of his hometown.

Zhe was born in Inner Mongolia. In his village there was an underground tunnel system which had been built during the war against Japan. The tunnels were like a labyrinth, linking every household. Zhe loved exploring the tunnels with his friends on their way to school and during weekends.

It was a dangerous game as the tunnels were built long ago and had not been maintained. Children playing in the tunnels sometimes got lost and disappeared. Zhe's parents tried to put him off by saying there were little red demons living in the tunnels. It worked for a while, but his curiosity grew and he soon had to go back into the underground world to explore.

"I'd attribute the success I've had in art to my childhood experience of exploring," says Zhe. "It developed my courage, curiosity and creativity." He feels sorry for children living in big cities. "The childhood they have isn't nearly as rich and colorful as mine. They may have plenty of expensive toys and food, but they don't have enough space to play in and they are far from nature," he says.

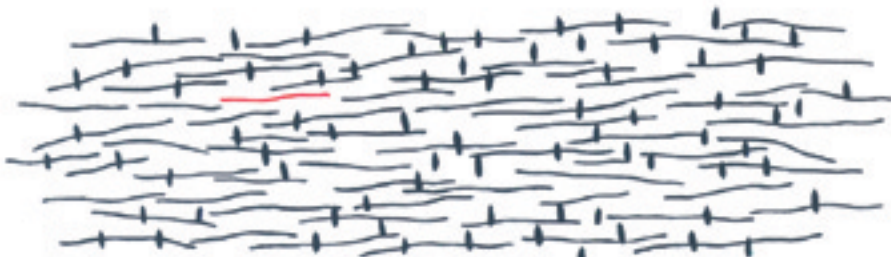
## Symbol of China

Zhe's work bears traces of Taoism. He tries to express both purification and ideas of return to nature in his paintings. His first solo exhibition, called "Symbol of China", opened at New Millennium Art Gallery last June.

The 17 paintings in the exhibition used traditional Chinese ink wash on *xuan* paper, mainly black in color with a little conspicuous red in each piece. The subjects of the paintings were all abstract symbols and forms rather than mountains, flowers, birds, people and other regular scenery of traditional ink wash paintings. But the spirit and thought in the paintings derives from the same culture.

"The paintings in Zhe Ya's 'Symbol of China' are generated by Chinese culture, and at the same time they surpass its traditions. He has found a unique form in art, which is distinct from other contemporary artists," commented Chen Zhang, curator of the exhibition.

Zhe Ya says he uses red colors in



Symbol of China 2002412

his painting as "a kind of warning and reminder." None of the paintings have a name, each of them coming under the overall concept of "Symbol of China", marked out only by their date of production. "I don't want to limit viewers' imagination by entitling my paintings; abstract art should leave more space for people to imagine freely."

## Tough in the city

Before coming to Beijing, Zhe had been teaching painting at home after graduation from art school. In 1992, he left home looking for a wider sky and arrived in Beijing with a 400 yuan loan from his friends.

"When my friends saw me off at the train station, I saw a painful expression on their faces. It was like



Symbol of China 2001518

they were seeing me disappear into an unknown dangerous world, a place with no home, no friend and nothing familiar," Zhe remembers.

Life was hard during the first few years, both in financial and artistic terms. Zhe was employed by a private company to imitate famous oil paintings, and was paid 250 yuan per month. After paying the rent for his dormitory, Zhe could only afford a bowl of noodles for every meal. The only pair of shoes he brought from home became worn out within a year and he had no money to buy a new pair.

Zhe had to work hard to survive in the city, just like other unknown young artists did. But he was determined not to compromise. "I didn't want to follow others and become a mediocre artist. I believed I could be distinctive as long as I continued exploring," he says.

Isadora Duncan, one of the pioneers of modern dance, once said that life was like a pendulum, sometimes

plunging into the abyss of bitterness, and sometimes reaching the summit of happiness. For Zhe Ya, 1998 was the former. "Everything was a mess," he recalls.

He was cheated by a friend who had invited him to present his works at a joint exhibition and refused to return his paintings afterwards. "Those paintings are unimportant today, but at that time they were my favorite works, like my children," says Zhe.

He applied to work as an assistant at the Central Academy of Fine Arts but was rejected. He fell from a bridge while riding his bicycle and had to spend several hundred yuan on medical treatment, which was a financial disaster for him.

As if that wasn't enough, his girlfriend dumped him after she got into the Central Academy of Fine Arts. They had been together for six years. "She lost confidence in me and our future together," he says sadly. That was the biggest blow for Zhe, and it took him a long time to recover. "I felt like every door was closing on me. I was left motionless and no one could help," he says.

## Swing of the pendulum

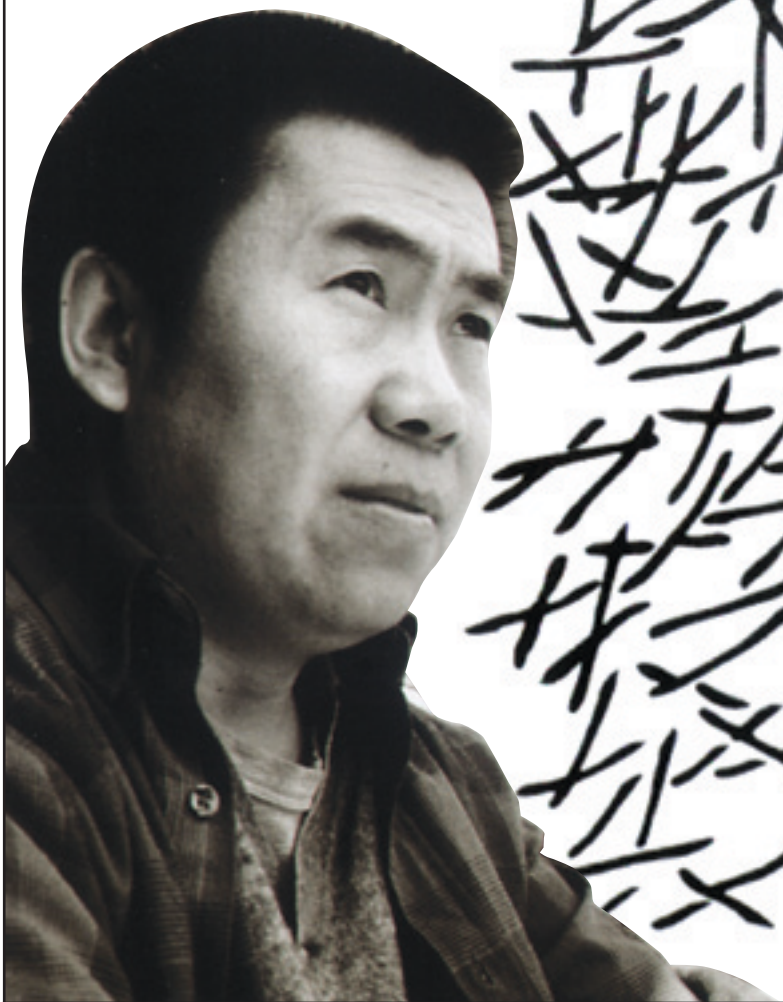
The betrayal of his girlfriend turned out to work as an impetus for Zhe, "she made me decide to devote all of my energy to art."

Things improved in 1999. Zhe made his breakthrough in art and realized his cultural ideal. He also made a friend at an exhibition who later became his principal backer and offered his help in promoting "Symbol of China". Zhe's works began to earn praise from some respected artists like Yuan Yunsheng.

In the latter half of 1999, Zhe hid himself in the mountains of north and west Beijing and indulged in nature and deep thoughts about life and art. When he came back home to his village in east Beijing, he had a calmer heart and more assured belief.

At present Zhe is still working hard in studying and researching traditional Chinese culture. He says he will travel around the country to inspect every trace of cultural heritage when he has enough money.

"I want my voice to be heard by the public, and my works to be seen by more people. I hope I can contribute to our traditional culture with my own influence," he says.





# Shadow of a Doubt over Future of Folk Art



By Iris Miao

Once a widely popular theater form, enjoyed by emperors and ordinary people for thousands of years, shadow puppet shows are today another “endangered species” among China’s traditional folk arts.

With the rise of more modern forms of entertainment, the lights have gone out on shadow puppet stages in urban and rural areas. There is some hope, however, that the folk art will not fade completely from memory. A recently launched nationwide project to save China’s folk cultural heritage lists shadow puppetry as the second priority after Spring Festival pictures.

Shadow puppet shows could once be seen in virtually every inhabited corner of China. When the Puppet and Silhouette Association was founded in 1982, almost every province sent representatives to Beijing to attend the meeting.

“The number of shadow puppet troupes ranked top among all the various kinds of opera troupes. In Hunan Province alone, there were over 100 troupes in the 1980s,” says Liu Jilin, a veteran shadow puppet artist, “Now even the association exists in name only.”

## No new blood

In Huzhuang village, north east of Beijing, 66-year-old Hu Changyou is famed for his skills as a maker of shadow puppets. Though since the 1980s, making puppets has been nothing more than a hobby for Hu, his works still win awards, including a first prize in the arts and crafts category of a municipal competition in 1990.

Hu started learning the skills of making the donkey skin puppets from his father at the age of 12, and was making a living from the craft by the time he was in his twenties. He can design and make a whole chest of over



Hu Changyou with one of his creations, the Ox Demon, from Journey to the West.

Shadow puppet theater is one of the oldest opera forms in China. The origins can be traced back to the second century BC. Using a white screen, lamp, and a chest of silhouette figures, a troupe might consist of just one performer, to as many as 12 performers and musicians, with a repertoire of 40 to 50 operas. The stories range from historical tales to legends, fables, fairy tales and romances. The most popular shadow puppet operas are *The Legend of the White Snake*, *Picking Up a Jade Bracelet*, *Journey to the West* and *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.

Photo by Wang Baihui

100 shadow puppets, enough to perform 10 to 20 operas. One such chest usually took one year to make, with most puppets comprising of a head and torso, and separate, jointed limbs.

Hu said the last shadow puppet chest he made, in 1982, was for a Japanese collector. “I was quite rich when I was working on that collection; I was making 20 yuan per day,” he says.

## The craft

The traditional technique of making shadow puppets involves several stages; processing the donkey skin, drawing the design, engraving, painting, flattening, oiling, and stitching, among which engraving is the key step. “The whole process seems very simple, yet it’s delicate and complicated, it usually takes several years practice with great concentration to perfect your technique,” Hu says.

After he stopped making

shadow puppets professionally, Hu turned his attention to paper-cuts. The skills required are similar to those for cutting out puppets, and his work won him second prize in a municipal competition in 1990. Now he makes a living by engraving stones.

Hu has a son and two daughters, but none of his children have shown any interest in learning their father’s craft. Earlier this year, a young man from a neighboring village visited Hu after hearing about him on a radio program. “He stayed with me for an hour, then left, and never came back again,” says Hu. “Why would a young man choose to learn this craft? There are so many things interesting nowadays on TV.”

When not busy, Hu takes out his chest of puppets and performs for his own amusement. “Manipulating puppets not only practices the agility of the figures, but also the cooperation of

one’s mind and hands, it is very good exercise for aged people.”

## The performance

Puppeteers control the figures behind a screen, while singing the lines of the character or characters they are manipulating in time with the musical accompaniment. A troupe of six or seven and a chest of puppets could perform 30 to 40 operas.

The props can all be packed into one small chest, meaning that puppet troupes were highly mobile. Once upon a time, puppet troupes large and small performed at all the countryside festivals, at weddings and harvests, and people would come to watch the performances from near and far.

There is now only one professional puppet troupe in Beijing, which uses the theater of the Beijing Wooden Puppet Troupe at Anzhen Qiao for its weekend performances.



## Spring Cleaning for Yuan Dynasty Wall

By Yi Yi

A renovation plan for a park in the north west of the city containing remnants of the Yuan Dynasty-era Beijing city wall has been formally approved and construction will begin on April 1.

The park, almost five kilometers in length, runs parallel to Xueyuan Lu, between Xueyuan Nanlu in the south and Zhichun Lu in the north, and covers an area of 67 hectares.

The Yuan Dynasty city wall was started in 1267 and completed in 1276. After the Ming Dynasty overthrew the Yuan, the new rulers redrew Beijing’s boundaries, leaving the far north section of the old wall outside the new city. The Tucheng, or Ancient Wall, is the only remnant of the Yuan wall still visible today.

Two 400-meter sections of the wall will be restored to give visitors to the park an impression of its original appearance.

The Xiaoyue River, which flows through the park, will also be cleaned up and tourist boats will be available for cruises through the park.

The project is expected to be completed this September.



## 旅游 · 度假 · 休闲 TEL: 68997124 68311626



### pick up your Walnuts on the Xiangshuihu Great Wall

Great Wall, Ancient Mountain, Cleat Spring, Flying Waterfall. join us to the Xiangshuihu Great Wall, you will see all the above scenery. Xiangshuihu locates at the west part of Mutianyu Huairou. Besides the lots interesting place, it also has a folurish orchard with apple, date, pear, walnut, chestnut, grape, edible wild herbs. From August 25 to October, Xiangshuihu will have a special activity "Visit Great Wall, pick Up Fruits". Call now: 010-61631085 61632539 61631588 Take bus: No.916at Dongzhimen Web site: www.Xiangshuihu.com

## 友谊宾馆康乐部 The Friendship Hotel Recreation Center

The outdoor swimming pool of the Friendship Hotel is one of the highest standard swimming pools of Beijing. The swimming pool is equipped with 7-meter diving platforms and delicate diving boards. The strict sterilization measures and the circulation system ensure the water is always clean. **Morning opening 6: 30-8: 30 RMB30/day, RMB400/month, and RMB1000/quarter.** Tel: 68499696



友谊宾馆室外泳池是北京市国际标准游泳池, 配有7米的跳台和小巧的跳板, 严格的消毒措施和水循环系统, 使其永远具有碧蓝的水质。早场: 6:00-8:30, 30元/天, 400元/月, 1000元/季度。咨询电话: 68499696

## 彼岸潜水俱乐部 欢迎您 The Other Side (Bi'an) Diving Club

The club provides the sports fans with professional service besides fun and coolness in the hot summer. Adopting sophisticated foreign training textbooks and equipment, the club provides professional training such as the swimming and diving courses and organizes diving tours home and abroad. With the internationally accepted training method, it takes the trainee only 20 hours to get the CMAS diving certificate which is acknowledged all over the world. The trainees have free and flexible choice as to the training time. The swimming course consists of elementary level, improving level, advanced level, honored guest class and the class paid by the hour. **Swimming and diving summer camp. Sign up now!** Time for the opening of the courses: the early April. The trainee can begin the course on signing up at any time. The summer courses begin on 1 June. Course time: 9:00-20:00, 7 days a week. Time for signing up: 9:00-21:00, 7 days a week. Place for signing up: The Professional Club of the Friendship Hotel (No. 3, Baishiqiao Road, Haidian District, 200 meters south of Renmin University). Tel: 68713790 68713791 68498613 Telex: 68713790



北京彼岸潜水俱乐部是一家专门为体育爱好者提供专业服务的运动休闲俱乐部。在这炎热的夏季, 潜水运动不仅是一项运动, 也是一项专业的训练。俱乐部提供国际认可的潜水课程, 并组织了国内外潜水旅行。采用国际先进的潜水教学方法和设备, 学员只需20小时即可取得国际认可的CMAS潜水证书。学员可以根据自己的时间安排课程。游泳课程分为初级、提高、高级、贵宾班和按小时收费的课程。暑期开办游泳潜水夏令营, 即日起报名。开课时间: 4月初开始, 随报随学。6月1日开夏季班, 全天训练。上课时间: 每日9:00-20:00 (周六、日休息)。报名时间: 每日9:00-21:00 (周末不休)。报名地点: 友谊宾馆专家俱乐部大堂(海淀区白石桥路3号, 人民大学向南200米) 报名电话: 68713790 68713791 68498613 传真: 68713790 乘车路线: 运通104、105、205、106、320路、804路、302路及安福路下车; 811、特6路公交车下车。



汇中颐园——距离城区最近的具有中国古典式建筑风格的商务会所, 位于东三环南端, 毗邻京瑞饭店、潘家园古玩城, 距离CBD驱车10分钟的路程, 它不仅拥有古色典雅的餐厅, 而且涵盖了六个风格各异、功能不同的四合院。

餐厅“养生堂”诚邀五星级饭店厨师加盟, 主理养生餐、新派粤菜。餐厅可同时容纳三百余人就餐。东西两侧十四间包房风格各异, 演出效果极佳的中央舞台巨大的京剧脸谱烘托出整个大厅浓郁的传统文化氛围。与中央电视台合作为十一频道《戏迷俱乐部》栏目提供了录制场地。

汲雅斋为书画院, 由汇中颐园与中国书画家联谊会合办, 其既可以举行各种展览和笔会, 也可以供爱好者低价收藏名人字画及明清家具真品。

鼎盛阁, 其装饰以中国古文化为底蕴, 有记载中医学基础的《黄帝内经》, 也有《聊斋志异》中的《小翠》, 是商务会议及宴请的良好场所。

茗茶居为茶居, 其包房有皇家式、农家式、日式等不同风格。古玩、玉米、灶台、腊肉、点缀其间。置身于此, 品茗论道, 其乐无穷。

颐生堂汇中颐园与中国中医研究院合作的养生健康咨询中心, 有中医保健、药浴等服务项目, 同时为会员建立健康卡。

汇中颐园——都市中的世外桃源。全体员工真诚期待您的光临!

电话(TEL): 67320035, 67322002-209 传真(FAX): 67320017





# Losing at the Game of Life

By Yu Shanshan

It was hard to tell whether reports of on-stage nudity created more repulsion or interest among the flock of students from the No. 1 Middle School lining up to enter the China Children's Theater on Monday night. By the time they were all seated and jockeying for the best places was over, the theater was completely full of teens and some unlucky older audience members were left with standing room only.

All the commotion was for *Dear Yelena Sergeyevna*, a controversial Russian play originally written in 1980 by Lyudmila Razumovskaya, making its premiere run in China at the theater from March 4 to 19. The dark work was immediately banned by the Soviet government when it debuted there. Now it has been translated into Chinese and is being performed by a cast of graduate students from the Central Academy of Drama.

The splash the play has made, even the fact it is being staged at all, has all come as a surprise to translator Tong Ning. In 1990, while working as interpreter for Russian director Oleg Yeflemof, she was given a book containing the script of *Dear Yelena Sergeyevna*, but only twelve years later did she think of translating it into Chinese. She completed the work over the summer of 2002, during which she basically locked herself in her home.

Later, Zha Mingzhe, famed director of the China National Theatre who has overseen such productions as 2000's *The Monument*, written by Canadian playwright Colleen Wagner, and 1997's *Death Without Burial* by Jean-Paul Sartre, put out word he was searching for a proper script for the Academy of Drama's performing arts graduate students. Tong Ning's father, drama critic Tong Daoming, recommended *Dear Yelena Sergeyevna*, and the rest is history.

"The story is very appropriate for the times. I felt an astounding power in the script, especially since many young people today seem to look at life as a game," said Zha. "I see our mission in staging this play is to take it back to the broad audience for whom it was written: children, adults, everyone."



Vitya (by Sun Yiming), Lyalya (by Zhang Beibei), and Volodya (By Li Guangjie), left to right, in the controversial rape scene of *Dear Yelena Sergeyevna*. Photo by Liu Ping

The play is set in the early 1980s and traces the fates of four friends, Volodya, Pasha, Vitya and Lyalya, on the cusp of graduating from high school. The story opens with them celebrating the birthday of their math teacher Yelena Sergeyevna, but then things turn darker when their real motives become clear. They begin to press the teacher for the key to a safe that holds their final math tests, planning to switch their original attempts with faked, improved versions. When the teacher objects, the students besiege her with nihilistic conversation about life and threats of violence. By the end of that night, physically exhausted and mentally broken, Sergeyevna commits suicide.

The tension in the play, and among the audience, reaches a climax when one boy, Volodya, says he will rape Pasha's girlfriend Lyalya if the key is not handed over, and the actor actually drops his pants and reveals himself. Because the show was going to be held at the Children's Theater and was intended for an at least partly teen audience, the company decided to stage a trial performance for

teachers and parents so they could decide if it was suitable for young people.

Response was varied. Some newspaper reports on the show ran under headlines of "Pants Down." These articles also included quotes from adults who expressed concern about the appropriateness of showing a play about the dark side of human nature to an impressionable young audience.

In the end, however, the controversy blew over, thanks to the efforts of local schools and parents. Guan Jie, a teacher from the No.11 Middle School who attended the trial show, said, "I think separating children from the evil shown in this play is not a good idea. It's better to let them see it, and then have a discussion. That is true education."

Not all the students seem to have been thrilled with that idea. At the show last Tuesday, when the character Volodya's pants came down, two young girls could be heard whispering, "Gross!"

"There's no doubt the nudity and controversy have increased audience numbers at the show. My question is why are so many people focusing

on the dropped pants?" said Wang Lina, supervisor of the class and co-director of the play. She added that the cast had no problems with the brief exposure. When she asked them what they thought, they simply responded they would do whatever was called for in the script.

According to Wang, the real challenges came with the acting itself, with having the cast recall the feeling of being in high school, understanding Russian culture and finding the best line stresses. Last September, before rehearsals began, the actors had to read Pushkin and Dostoevsky and do exercises to create back stories not mentioned in the script.

During the preparations, Wang was also extremely busy trying to find investment in the performance. "I didn't want the show to go ignored, like many graduate performances. From the beginning I made up my mind to make a commercial play and stage it in a theater downtown — for one thing, that would increase the actors' exposure and help their careers. Children's Theater is the right place."

Luckily for Wang, increasing numbers of businesses are looking into putting money into the dramatic arts in the capital. The funding for this show came from Beijing Readers Culture and Arts Company and Beijing Time United Culture Developing Company in arrangements set up through Zha Mingzhe's extensive connections.

In order to expand the influence and range of the play, Tang Xiaoming, president of Readers Culture, had Tong Ning's translated script published by the Electronic Industry Publishing House. Tang said, "People can choose to read the script or watch the play or both, which can help the public get a deeper understanding of the themes of the play."

In the end, all the hard work by Zha, Wang and their cast paid off. Zhu Jia, project manager at Time United, told *Beijing Today* that almost every show sold out. An even more promising sign for the careers of the young actors was a sight almost unprecedented in a graduate performance — legions of fans surrounding the cast after the shows begging for autographs.

## Spanish Cattle Magic

By Yu Shanshan

In China, Spanish artist Eduardo Urculo is hardly a household name, unlike his countryman Salvador Dali, the subject of a high-profile exhibition in the capital last July. However, among his own people, Urculo is famed enough that the opening of a show of his works at the Art Museum of the China Millennium Monument on March 8 drew none other than Spanish Queen Sophia.

Urculo, a 64-year-old painter, sculptor and stage designer, was born in Santurce, Spain and trained in Madrid and Paris. Through the course of his career, he has taken on a wide range of styles, subject matters and ideas. He started out in Expressionism, but by the late 1960s, he had found his own, more surrealist style.

Fifty-eight of Urculo's works are on display in the exhibition, showing such recurring symbols as fruits, hats and skulls. The pieces *La Vaca Final* ("the last cow", 1976) and *En Esa Magia Estaba* ("That magic used to", 1977) represent another of his fascinations, rear views of cattle and nude women.

Since the 1980s, he has painted himself into some of his works, always from the back or side with face obscured and wearing a woolen hat and overcoat. That same kind of hat, along with a travel bag or two, show up in other works, such as *House by the Railroad*, *El Regreso de Hopper* (1990).

The group of still life paintings included in the exhibition shows Urculo's range of talent. Still lifes with heavy cubist influences have been one of his central occupations in the past few years, as he has portrayed fruit, pianos, skulls and other subjects within the boundaries of two major themes, life in big cities and Eastern art.

The Urculo show is part of the "Spanish Art Promotion Worldwide" program, a series of art exhibitions hosted by the Spanish government in countries around the world. At the opening ceremony of the exhibition, Chen Haosu, president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, expressed hopes the show will help Chinese audiences to better understand Spanish culture.

**Where:** China Millennium Monument Art Museum **When:** until April 8, 8:30 am-5:00 pm **Price:** 10 yuan per person **Tel:** 6851 3322



House by the Railroad, El regreso de Hopper, 1990 Photo by Zhuang Jian

## 品牌装修送品牌保洁

采用无甲醛板材及进口环保水性涂料  
使您的住宅远离装修污染

为您的家庭量身打造  
装修施工方案



## 家居保洁 商业保洁

To provide cleaning and maintenance service  
for a graceful living and working space

美奥  
保洁

Meiao Houskeeping

优质服务队伍  
Efficient service team

专业进口设备  
Advanced equipment

Tel: 8401 0926

8401 8543

BeiJing Jia Yu Hua Decoration Co.,Ltd

地址: 北京市朝阳区亮马桥路光明大厦8层1806室  
电话: (010) 8455 2536 (嘉宾专线) 64678822-1806  
传真: (010) 8455 2530  
Add: Room 1806, 8F, Guangming Plaza, Liangmaqiao Road,  
Chaoyang, Beijing, China  
Tel: (010) 8455 2536 (嘉宾专线) 64678822-1806  
FAX: (010) 8455 2530

加裕华装饰



# Wiggles Rock Beijing



Wiggles and friends

By Dong Nan

The imminent arrival of the Rolling Stones in town has somewhat overshadowed news about another international band currently on tour in China. Australian pop phenomenon the Wiggles have the market cornered down under, at least in terms of the four to ten age group. This week, local kids had the opportunity to see the band strut their stuff when they performed at Beijing's Century Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday.

The Wiggles feature four all-singing, all-dancing former kindergarten teachers, who are joined on stage at key moments by special guests Dorothy the Dinosaur, Wags the Dog, Henry the Octopus and Captain Feathersword. That should pretty well dispel any remaining doubts as to the nature of the show. As far as *Beijing Today* has been able to ascertain, the Ministry of Culture did not blacklist any of the Wiggles' repertoire.

The band has been a favorite with children in Australia and New Zealand for over 11 years. More recently, they have become one of the top children's entertainment groups in America. When they performed in Hong Kong last year, tickets sold out in less than two hours.

However the fact that the Beijing performances were held in the morning and afternoon on weekdays, when the majority of the band's target audience were in class, somewhat weakened demand for tickets.

The Wiggles will continue their Asia tour with performances in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore.

## WORLDWIDE



Tobey Maguire

### Maguire Questionable for Spider-Man Sequel

He may still have radioactive blood at the box office, but a bad back could end up derailing Tobey Maguire's return as Spider-Man.

Maguire, who became a Hollywood titan starring in last year's top-grossing movie as the web-slinging Marvel Comics superhero, may be replaced in the *Spider-Man* sequel by the real-life boyfriend of his on-screen love interest, Kirsten Dunst, *Daily Variety* reported in its Tuesday editions.

Maguire's spokeswoman told the entertainment trade paper the actor is still healing from "mild discomfort in his back" brought on by physically demanding roles in his last two films. (Reuters)



System of a Down

### System of a Down Puts Out Anti-War Video

The guys in System of a Down hope the video for their latest song *BOOM!* helps change the way people think about war.

Much of the video was shot at anti-war rallies across the world during Presidents Day weekend. It also features satirical animation of President Bush, Saddam Hussein, British Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Osama bin Laden riding rockets over a city.

"We want to make the idea of dropping bombs, of waging war seem as antiquated and ridiculous as it is today for an Afro-American to have to sit at the back of the bus," guitarist Daron Malakian said. (AP)

### Margulies, Bratt Enter Intrigue

TV veterans Julianna Margulies and Benjamin Bratt are set to star in an off-Broadway production of *Intrigue With Faye*, a play by Kate Robin opening June 11 at the MCC Theater.

The play, to be directed by Jim Simpson, concerns an urban couple who attempt to improve trust and intimacy by videotaping each other's every move, but they discover that some truths are better left hidden. (Variety)



Salma Hayek as Frida Kahlo

### Hayek Hopes She Wins Oscar for Frida

Salma Hayek is hoping she'll win the best-actress Oscar for her role as painter Frida Kahlo in *Frida*—but she doesn't consider herself a favorite.

"We haven't had the promotional campaigns of other films, nor of other actresses," Hayek said Monday. "But I have a chance like all the other nominees. So if I win, it is because I really deserve it."

Also nominated for best actress are Nicole Kidman, *The Hours*; Diane Lane, *Unfaithful*; Julianne Moore, *Far From Heaven*; and Renee Zellweger, *Chicago*. (Reuters)

### Dire Straits Frontman Knopfler Hurt in Crash

Former Dire Straits frontman Mark Knopfler was rushed to hospital after a motorbike accident, a hospital spokeswoman said on Monday.

The 53-year-old singer and guitarist was taken by ambulance to St. Thomas' Hospital, central London, where he was treated for a broken collar bone and six broken ribs.

The spokeswoman said he was in a stable condition and had been discharged from the hospital. (Reuters)



Mark Knopfler



Chyi Chin at press conference Photo by Cui Jun

## Chyi Chin Brings in Spring

By Dong Nan

Chyi Chin, one of the first pop stars from Chinese Taipei to make it big on Chinese mainland, is performing at Beijing's Capital Gymnasium tonight. This is the third time the evergreen star has held solo concerts in Beijing, following those in 1991 and 1997.

Chyi's best-known songs, including *Perhaps in Winter*, *Flower Sacrifice* and *The Outside World* won him a loyal following when he first appeared on the scene in the mid 1980s. His long hair, faded jeans and melancholy vocal style influenced a whole generation.

Chyi promises fans a mixture of old favorites and new hits from his latest album, *The Calling*. He will be accompanied by the Beijing Symphony Orchestra and his own band, The Rainbow.

"I deliberately chose March 21 to hold my concert," said Chyi at a press conference, "It signifies spreading the seeds of hope in a brand new season." According to the lunar calendar, the date is called Spring Equinox and marks the beginning of spring.

## Prodigy Gives Piano Recital

By Dong Nan

Talented young pianist Li Yundi gave a recital last Sunday, at Poly Theatre, following performances in Chongqing, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Macao. The program consisted of four Chopin scherzos and a sonata by Liszt.

In 2000, at the age of 18, Li won the gold medal at the International Chopin Piano Competition, becoming both the youngest person and the first Chinese to receive the honor.

The International Chopin Piano Competition is held every five years and there was no gold medallist in the past two contests.

After Beijing, Li gave the final concert of his current tour in Chengdu. Still a student at the Hochschule für Musik in Hannover, Germany, Li is not expected to perform again in China for at least two years.



Li Yundi at the concert

Photo by Huang Liang



Jordan (Tara Subkoff), the child psychic

## Thriller Shocks Cinema Goers

By Nebula Dong

A 1995 American thriller *When The Bough Breaks* is currently scaring cinema goers all over Beijing.

A flash flood in Houston turns up seven amputated, numbered hands, a sure sign that a serial killer is on the loose. Beautiful forensic scientist Audrey Macleah (Ally Walker) has no leads until she discovers a troubled child named Jordan (Tara Subkoff) who has a psychic link to the murderer.

Broken limbs, bloody scenes and edge-of-the-seat suspense, the movie, described by some as stomach churning, is a challenge to the audiences' nerves.

As there is no rating system for films in China, advertising posters carry the warning, "The movie may not be suitable for juveniles."

*When The Bough Breaks* is the third foreign thriller to screen in Beijing cinemas this month, following *The Watcher* and *Belphegor, Phantom of the Louvre*.

北京青年报  
BEIJING TODAY  
今日北京

房地产版(英文版)  
让我们和太阳一起升起

《北京青年报·房地产版(英文版)》是《北京青年报》每周五推出的房地产及相关的广告专版,其英文版随报发行媒体优势不言而喻。根据房产客户的需求,让公司决策层直接阅读相关内容,更具针对性,力多使客户的广告效力发挥至最大!

Real Estate Edition in English of Beijing Youth Daily, which is released every Friday, is a new advertising special one for the real estate and relative industries. The English Edition is delivered with the newspaper so the media advantage is very obvious. Real Estate Edition in English of Beijing Youth Daily, aiming at the advertiser's requests for the more pertinence, let's the policy-makers read the relative contact directly and try to reach the most advertisement effectiveness

**HOT TEL: 13910419797**

**Dart Foreign Affairs Management Office**

\*Yard architecture with European style  
\*sufficient parking space, convenient traffic, complete facilities and offering service around the day  
\*\*Dart Commerce Office

1. it is located between CBD center and Guomao  
2. favourable price: RMB3-4 yuan/squaremeter/day  
3. telephone number: 65032597 or 64951817  
\*\*Dart Commerce Garden

1. it is located in the New Olympic sphere and it is between foreign account office and the Chinese-Japanese Hospital  
2. favourable price: RMB 2.8-3.5 yuan/squaremeter/day  
3. telephone number: 65032097 or 65032598

My company also has open separate foreign office building with 15000 square meter to be sold (including property right). It is located in north-east corner of Siyuan Bridge.

WARWICK INTERNATIONAL APARTMENTS

Were we do our job... So you can do yours.

Special recommended villa at Lido are \$6000/29spm/3br/fully furnished  
TEL: (010) 67151166 ext. 3005/3006

赛特饭店 SCITECH HOTEL  
BUSINESS FLOOR ON LINE

Business Floor Standard Room: USD98+15%SC  
Business Floor Suite: USD138+15%SC  
Business Floor Duplex Suite: USD300+15%SC

Express check in & check out Free use 3DDS Internet Lines  
One free buffet in Gym Shop per day Daily newspaper & Magazine Free use  
swimming pool, GYM and sauna Free income faxes  
Daily happy hours: (17:30-18:30) Welcome amenities on arrival

One piece free pressing per day  
ADD: No. 22 Jianguomenwai Avenue, Beijing 10004 P.R. China  
Tel: 8610-65123388  
Fax: 8610-65123542  
E-mail: sthotel@w.com.cn

City Plaza (Phase 1) And Palace International

Address: 3A, Shi Lipu, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China  
Transportation: conveniently close to Chaoyang Road, Jingdong Express Way, and Ciyunsi Bridge of the 4th Ring Road

Services: Receptionist (Lobby), Tickets, Room Service, Home Maid, Room Cleaning, Home Appliance Repairs, and Flowers.

Rental Returns: USD900.00-2200 per month  
Current Occupation Rate: Offices: 100% Department: 95-7%  
Business Tax: 0.4%  
Management Fees: Palace International: RMB800 per square meter per month for Cleaning, Security (in-door and out-door) Vegetation, Elevators, Elevators, Minor Repairs, Room.

**HOT TEL: 65561798**

NWD (Hotels Investments) Limited  
Beijing Kiu Lok Property Management Services Co Ltd

Member of the Hong Kong Listed New World Group invites high-calibre applications for the post of Leasing Executives:  
Applications must possess:  
- University degree  
- presentable appearance  
- excellent inter-personal and negotiation skill  
- outgoing and aggressive personality  
- fluency of spoken English and Putonghua  
- sound sales / marketing experience and record  
- corporate client connections a definite advantage

We offer attractive basic salary, commission and excellent career prospect. Please send both English and Chinese resume (with employment history, academic qualification, present and expected salary) together with a recent photo to The Sales

保罗大厦

◇ To South of Lan Dao building, it's new building  
◇ Area: 3500m2-4000m2, 430spm/per floor  
◇ This building is available to Bank, Negotiable Securities, Business Center, restaurant etc.  
◇ 24 hours security & hot water  
Tel: 65958081 65958060  
Mobil: 13701350511 13910890956  
Add: No. 38 Chao Wai Avenue Chao Yang district Beijing

Sunflower Tower 盛福大厦

Investors: Philipp Holzmann Anlagen GmbH  
Location: No. 37, Maizidian Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing Next to the Liang Ma Hotel. Located at the East 3rd Ring Road

Area: 817 square meters (based on architectural area) on 24th Floor  
Asking rent: USD28/month/sqm (gross including management)  
Communication: Supplied nodes IDD lines and 4MB of Capacity  
ISDN is available  
Elevator: 10 KONE elevators HVAC System: Four-pipe system  
Amenities: Business center, Exhibition facilities, Retail space  
Existing Tenants: Walt Disney, BASY, KONE, E-turtle Next work

**Tel: 85275696-608**

中国人寿大厦 CHINA LIFE TOWER

租售热线: Enquiry hotline: 65886868  
Developer: Beijing Zhong Baixin Real Estate Development Ltd  
Designer: RTKL Company

北京市国宾大厦 BEIJING AMBASSADOR MANSION

Ambassador Mansion Good News!  
Newly decorated apartments and offices Available!  
Range from 1 bedroom to 4 bedroom USD1000/month up

Office Styles  
Nex area from 20m2-1600m2  
Ambassador Mansion is an excellent choice for your business or life For more information  
Call us at 010-64384093 or fax on 010-64380148

寻求合作

本公司欲求东二环东三环附近写字楼式办公楼进行合作。要求: 手续合法, 价格合理, 中介免谈, 真心合作者请来电: 64055786

this newspaper's perennial legal adviser: Beijing jingta law office undertaking mostly:  
1. real estate business that buy, rent and manage kinds of licences in Beijing;  
2. foreign cases, maritime, finance, bond, important and difficult affairs;  
3. debt, economy contract, foreign marriage cases, criminal defense;  
4. notarizations;  
5. holding perennial legal advisers for foreign enterprises, providing legal assistance;  
6. providing law regulations and contract versions in any languages.  
TEL: 86-10-83521218 FAX: 86-10-83525557  
http://www.venus-law.com e-mail: jtt@venus-law.com

龙潭涉外公寓 LONGTAN APARTMENTS

from \$500/month. 34-110 sq.m (studio, 1-2 bedrooms)

Fully furnished with satellite TV, IDD appliances.  
24-hour hot water, security, plentiful parking  
near the Temple of Heaven, Chongwen District  
call now for more details.  
67115358 67128749





## Lakeside Finery

By Lisa Huang

For a long time, the strong suit of the Shichahai area has been cool hangouts for a pleasant drink or elegant meal. Shopping around the lakes, however, is getting increasingly rewarding, especially with the opening of Qingkan, a quaint jewelry store, two weeks ago.

The store occupies a cute

yellow house that stands right at the end of Yinding bridge. Qingkan's owner, Wang Zunli, is a travel buff and antique collector, so many of the products on sale have origins far away, in the far past, or both.

One of the store's specialties is antique jade pieces, nicely displayed in two glass counters. One item made of Hetian jade that looks like a ring is

in fact a traditional decoration Tibetan men use on their hair braids (200 yuan). Other pieces include interesting jade bracelets interwoven with thin silver flakes (around 400 yuan each). They are actually repaired broken bracelets, bound together again with the silver. Necklaces, pendants and rings round out the jade choices.

The store also offers goods outside of jewelry that have an exotic touch, such as boomerangs from Australia (35-45 yuan each) and pieces of handwoven cloth with intricate pat-

terns from Southeast Asia that go for around 200 yuan to 300 yuan each. Shoppers should be warned that the prices marked on the goods are the bottom line - bargaining is not encouraged.

**Where:** 2 Houhai Nanyan, Xicheng **Open:** 12 am - 12 pm



Photos by Zhuang Jian

By Salinda

Whether or not they love to sing and dance is a matter of opinion, but one thing about southern China's Miao minority people is sure - they are expert embroiderers. Fortunately for consumers here in Beijing, the store Dongyun Xiufang on Xiushui Nanjie (behind the Friendship Store) offers



Photos by Li Shuzhun

## Minority Culture for Sale

a wide range of beautiful Miao goods, negating the need for a trip down South.

Instead of an ordinary store, this place is more like a showroom of Miao fabrics. The walls are covered in dazzling embroidery works, the ceiling in batik cloth. Outside of wall hangings, Miao clothes and small pieces of embroidery are also available.

Most embroidery designs are complex geometrical patterns, based on representations of birds, animals, flowers and trees. All prices are negotiable, but shoppers should know that nothing here goes for under 100 yuan. Some of the most remarkable pieces on display are not



for sale, as they are up to 200 years old and extremely valuable.

Beautiful Miao silver jewelry is also on sale, offering pieces to cover hands to feet. Bracelets, charms, earrings, and lock-like pendants that symbolize long life are crafted of thin silver used especially by the Miao people.

Among the choices for younger folks are doll sets. A set of 56 wooden dolls decked out in the clothes and decorations of China's minority peoples fetches 3,800 yuan. Each one comes with a Chinese-English explanation card giving information about its respective ethnicity. There are also dolls dressed to look like

young Miao women that go for 100 yuan each.

A wooden staircase leads to the second floor, where customers can get a different taste of Miao culture at a small restaurant. The eatery dishes up such Miao and Yunnan specials as *guoqiao mixian*, (across-the-bridge noodles, 28 yuan), *qiguoji* (Yunnan-style chicken, 68 yuan) and *hani shashouluo* (36 yuan), a combination of corn, peas, mushrooms and fish.

**Where:** No. 7B, Xiushui Nanjie, Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang **Open:** 11 am - 11 pm **Tel:** 6592 0792



## Out of Africa

By Lisa Huang

Once China has become familiar, where can you go within the capital to get a taste of the exotic and different? The home decoration store Zolasim's answer is Africa.

The store mainly offers woodcarvings, hailing from over a dozen African countries and falling into three basic categories - animal representations, masks, and human figures. Customers are welcomed by one of the most striking pieces, a nearly three-meter-tall wood giraffe (12,000 yuan) that stands in the middle of the shop. Among the masks, one impressive item has an inside made of pottery lined with a thin layer of leather and is used by witch doctors (1,300 yuan). *Xianxing ren*, linear human figures carved from dark wood, are some of the store's most popular items, especially pieces with the "mother and child" theme (480 yuan).

The highlight of Zolasim is the "Miraculous Door" (8,000 yuan), a massive piece of ebony said to be exclusively used by the chiefs of some tribes. It is carved with intricate



Mast, 5,000 yuan

pictures of farming, fighting and other scenes from human life.

Even more elegant is "Family Tree" (28,000 yuan), a hollow cylindrical sculpture created from over ten human figures. A similar but smaller piece was once presented to Mao Zedong by the government of Congo.

The store also offers a line of African drums (around 2,000 yuan each), colorful African dolls (around 500 yuan), and some Ming and Qing Dynasty Chinese furniture.

**Where:** 16 Wangfujing Dajie (50 meters south of Huaqiao Dasha), Dongcheng **Open:** 9 am - 11 pm **Tel:** 6523 6427



Sculpture of an ancient king, 20,000 yuan

Photos by Zhuang Jian

## Decorate Like an Egyptian

By Salinda

Paper may be counted among the four major inventions of Chinese civilization, but China does not have the monopoly on that claim. Papyrus was used to make paper by the ancient Egyptians almost 5,000 years ago. Today, Pyramid Gallery, a store on the



Ankh, 68 yuan

fourth floor of the Yaxiu Clothes Market, allows shoppers to check out actual Egyptian papyrus and buy pieces that can add color and culture to any home.

The store specializes in paintings on paper actually imported from Egypt and made using papyrus reeds grown along the Nile river. Painting subjects include Egyptian pyramids, faces, palaces, and scenes from life in the ancient civilization, such as hunting and religious ceremonies. Another major theme are ancient Egyptian deities.

Whatever the subject, the paintings have clean, simple lines because they are painted using papyrus stems, and bright

and showy colors that come from natural dyes based on minerals and plants.

The papyrus paper is treated to have a weathered and ancient look. The paintings come on three base colors of paper - buffed, brown or covered in a glyph pattern. Buffed is the least expensive, going for 68 yuan for a 20 centimeter by 30 centimeter painting, while brown or glyph versions of the same painting cost 10 yuan more.

**Where:** No.4178, Yaxiu Clothes Market, Sanlitun, Chaoyang **Open:** 9:30 am - 8 pm **Tel:** 13901 063424



Chariot, 68 yuan

Photos by Li Shuzhun

## Business Service 商务服务



BEIJING PRE-MEDIA ADVERTISING CO., LTD.

**A**dvertising agent service  
为国际、国内知名企业提供广告代理服务

**B**usiness service  
为外商提供商务服务与交流合作

**C**orporation identity design service  
为企业提供专业品牌形象设计服务

- CI / VI设计 · 宣传册 · 公司简介
- 产品说明书 · 产品包装 · POP广告
- 手提袋 · 海报 · 宣传单

HIGH QUALITY · BEST SERVICE

TEL: (86) 010-88552079/80 13601205460  
AD. E-mail: premedia@263.net

## BUSINESS AGENT

## PREO-(BEIJING) ADVERTISING CO., LTD.

Professional media company

Our service including:

- ◆ Specialize in advertisement design;
- ◆ Advertisement promotion on network and media;
- ◆ Advertising report of company on newspaper;

*Good service give you efficient feedback*

**Tel: 68431638 Fax: 88516568**

**Mobile: 13001168744**

**E-mail: newyangd@hotmail.com**

## A Five-year-old Advertisement Company

- ◆ we're looking forward to foreign association for:
  - ◆ Joint venture and technology cooperation;
  - ◆ Trademark introduction;
  - ◆ Marketing promotion and management;
  - ◆ Arrangement of exhibition and meeting;
- Welcome to contact with us*  
**Tel: 13911195219**

**Business Service**

*Advertisement for IT, OVERSEAS IMMIGRATION and so on.*

## 北京工商事务咨询服务中心

BEIJING CONSULTING SERVICE CENTER FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

业务范围: 承办国内外企业登记注册代理业务、外国企业常驻代表机构审批、  
登记注册的代理业务。

The center handles applications for enterprise and foreign enterprise permanent office in Beijing registration.

地址: 北京市海淀区三里河1号西苑饭店7号楼107-109室  
RM107-109, NO.7, XIYUAN HOTEL, NO.1, SANLIHE LU, HAI DIAN, BEIJING.  
电话: 68313388 转 57107-57109 88371521 传真: 68342761 联系人: 周研、孙霞、任民



BeiJing PRE-MEDIA Advertising Company

A well-known professioned company  
We provide following services:

- ★ Market strategy, promotion and design, Boutique agency
- ★ Advertisement Management of plane Media, TV advertisement
- ★ Buying Representative

Quality service obtain honour welcome to consultation

**TEL: 88552081**

**FAX: 88552079**

**MOBILE: 13601226884**

**E-mail: pieere@sina.com**

## 北京京城出国留学服务中心

### CANADA

- ◆ Get information of Canada university at present
- ◆ Recommend eight university in Canada

Hotline: 010-66050344/66050391

### RUSSIA

- ◆ U.S.A university standard, Chinese university fee
- ◆ Enough speciality
- ◆ no requirement of age
- ◆ BA and Master

Hotline: 010-66050775

CHINA BEIJING SERVICE CENTER FOR STUDENTS EXCHANGE

Head Office Tel: 010-66020403 WebSite: www.cbjsc.com  
Address: Level 6, Xidan Tushu Building, No.17 Xi Chang'an St. Beijing





Photo by Zhuang Jian

## Relaxation for the Stomach and Mind

By James Liu

Walking into one of the three Dafudi restaurants in the capital is like suddenly walking into an elegant home in southeastern China. The eateries have a light and elegant vibe created by gray tiled roofs, simple white walls, small bridges rising from the center of the floor and man-made waterfalls. The soothing sounds of the Chinese zither complete the relaxing feel.

The newest Dafudi restaurant is located in a three-story establishment on Zhanlan Lu in Xicheng District. Like its sis-



Raw fish ball, 48 yuan

ters, it specializes in imperial cuisine at prices far lower than competitors such as Tan Family Cuisine in the Beijing Hotel. Most dishes have delicate flavors light on the spice and salt. One house specialty that must be tried is the *dongpo*



Dongpo rou, six yuan each

*rou* (braised meat, six yuan per serving), made of pork belly slowly cooked in high-grade rice wine for four hours. The resulting dish has a flowery smell and melts in the mouth without leaving a greasy feel.

Another fine dish is "fish

swallows lamb" (*yuchiyang*, 128 yuan), a mandarin fish stuffed with diced lamb. Somehow, the odors of the two ingredients negate each other, leaving only their delicious flavors. Even such simple fare as chicken soup (*gaotang*, 28 yuan) is elevated to the level of excellence at these fine and successful restaurants.

**Add:** Xiaoguan Xiejie, Chaoyang; No. 24 Zhanlanlu, Xicheng **Open:** 10 am - 2 pm, 5 pm - 10 pm **Tel:** 6493 3152; 6835 2770 **Average cost:** 80 yuan per person

## Pure Lotus Vegetarian Restaurant

By Hong Lei

Vegetarian cuisine in China has an intimate connection with Buddhism. Therefore, one sign that the Jingxinlian (meaning pure lotus) vegetarian restaurant is the real thing is that it is a branch of an eatery from Wutai Mountain, an ancient Buddhist holy place.

The interior is decorated mostly in bright yellow and red, with comfortable tables and chairs and soothing piped-in music. The owner, Guanlin, is a devout Buddhist and has tried to saturate the place with a Buddhist feel through more than just the lack of meat in all dishes. For example, each table is named after a Buddhist saying, such as "be tolerant", "be thoughtful", and "being content with one's lot".

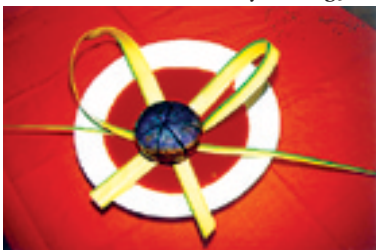
Dishes too have been dubbed with Buddhism-inspired names following their color, shape, taste and texture. Bean sprouts are called *huigen*, or "wisdom roots", and go



Photos by Zhuang Jian



Quick fried spicy snails, 28 yuan



Stewed eggplant, 22 yuan

for 9 yuan. *Xiyuanjiefu*, or "cherishing luck and destiny" is the elegant name of pineapple with lotus root (28 yuan), while seasonable vegetables are called *neixin chuntian* or "spring of the heart" (9 yuan).

The kitchen upholds the strictest Buddhist culinary principles, meaning eggs, ginger, garlic, spring onion and MSG are all outlawed. However, the dishes are surprisingly tasty and attractive. Among the house specialties are *gan'enmanhuai*, or "feeling deeply grateful" (22 yuan), a combination of green vegetables, sliced mushrooms and kidney beans, and *kejixingqian*, or "being constraint and modest" (36 yuan), made of *fuzhu*, a type of dried tofu, topped with lemon juice. Diners who want something meatier should try, "being tolerant," *kuanhongbaorong* (45 yuan), round "steaks" crafted from bean starch and covered in black pepper.

**Add:** Inner courtyard of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, 10 Nongzhanguan Nanli, Chaoyang **Open:** 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, 5 pm - 10 pm **Tel:** 6592 3627

lunches from Asia and China, such as Hainanese Chicken Rice and Tempura Set, await you at the Coffee Garden or Horizon Chinese Restaurant. **Cost:** 68 yuan per person **Where:** Kerry Centre Hotel **When:** 12 pm - 2 pm (Coffee Garden), 11:30 am - 2:30 pm (Horizon Chinese Restaurant) **Tel:** 6561 8833

### Utopia

Try some popular Shandong dishes such as fried chicken

with spring onion, steamed fish with garlic and oil, and sautéed chicken with egg white. **Where:** Utopia, Novotel Xinqiao Beijing **When:** 11 am - 2 pm, 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm **Tel:** 6513 3366 ext. 2401

### South and East Asian Delights

The best offerings of South and East Asia, such as Thai fish cake, Indian chicken curry, Japanese salmon sashimi, Vietnamese spring rolls and Korean ribs, as well as salad bar, soup and desert. **Cost:** 68 yuan plus 15 percent (lunch), 98 yuan plus 15 percent includes a free item and a glass of soft drink or local beer. **Where:** Café Renaissance, Jingguang New World Hotel **When:** March 16 to April 15 **Tel:** 6597 3388 ext. 2513

### Tyrell's Wine Tasting Dinner

Founded in 1858, Tyrell's is one of Australia's oldest and most prestigious vineyards. On Monday, March 24, Louisiana will host a tasting dinner joined by the winery's Export Director, Steve New. **Where:** Louisiana Restaurant, Hilton Beijing **When:** Aperitifs will be served at 7 pm, dinner at 7:30 pm **Cost:** 480 yuan plus 15 percent surcharge. **Tel:** 6466 2288 ext. 7370

## Take a Culinary Trip to Turkey

By James Liu

Istanbul is in the air at the Atrium Café in the Hilton Beijing, as the restaurant is hosting its first Turkish food festival until March 22. Every day, Ayhan Kale and Ilhan Onay, two guest chefs from the Istanbul, fix authentic dishes for lunch and dinner buffets that represent the many influences on Turkish cuisine from its location at the crossroads of Asia and Europe and its proximity to the sea. In general, Turkish food is spicy and tasty but not too heavy.

Chef Kale brought raw fish and condiments with him from Istanbul, ensuring diners get a true taste of Turkey. "Onay and I want guests to come and eat here because the food is not only tasty, but also looks quite nice," he said.

Lamb kebab is one of the most common dishes in Turkey, as nearly every family and restaurant have their own versions. The kebabs on offer at the Atrium have a pleasant spicy kick and taste rich with fresh lamb. Kebab meat can also be stuffed into buns along with vegetables to make excellent sandwiches. Other Turkish selections include eggplant dishes such as moussaka, eggplant salad, eggplant with tomato and onion sauce, soups, puddings and fruit-flavored sweets.

During the promotion, all diners will be eligible for a lucky



draw with a grand prize of a four-day trip for two to Istanbul.

Here is a recipe for a simple and delicious Turkish eggplant dish provided by Chef Kale:

**Ingredients:** 50 milliliters oil, 1 kilogram lamb meat, 3-4 leaves bay leaves, 100 grams tomato paste, minced onion, 4 eggplants, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 egg yolk, 500 milliliters milk

Peel the eggplants and dice, then shred the lamb meat. Heat oil in pan and deep fry meat and eggplant for two minutes. Add onion, tomato paste, lemon juice, egg yolk and milk. Cook for three minutes and serve.

**Add:** Second floor, Hilton Beijing, No.1 Dongfang Lu, Dongsanhuan Beilu, Chaoyang **Open:** 11:30 am - 2 pm, 5:30 pm - 9 pm **Tel:** 6466 2288 ext. Atrium **Average cost:** 185 yuan per person plus 15 percent service charge



LOBSTER ETOUFÉE

## Putting the Fat in Fat Tuesday

By Hong Lei

Wealthy mouths were watering on March 1, when the Louisiana Restaurant at the Hilton Beijing hosted "A Feast for the Senses" for the Chaine des Rotisseurs, a renowned international gastronomic society. The occasion was Mardi Gras, also known as Fat Tuesday, a traditional Catholic celebration perhaps most commonly associated with the US city of New Orleans.

The feast consisted of a six-course menu that blended traditional Louisiana cooking with more modern touches, each course coming with a specially selected, top-shelf wine. Diners warmed up their stomach with some neo-cajun fish, a carpaccio of red snapper and salmon roulade served on a special salad. Tastes of New Orleans continued with a gumbo and lobster etoufée, before the presentation of the gastronomic highlight of the evening - veal medallions with blackened foie gras and black truffled



mashed potatoes, accompanied by "Mentor", a 1997 Australian wine. Diners were sent home with smiles on their faces after closing the gluttony with a hazelnut crème brûlée.

Originally founded in France in 1248, the Chaine des Rotisseurs is devoted to promoting fine dining among its over 24,000 members in more than 100 countries around the world. The organization first came to China in 1984, and now claims 100 members in Shanghai and 110 in Beijing. The local chapter organizes six events in top restaurants every year, each focusing around a different event or cuisine. Past feasts have been held at the Palace Hotel, Jinshanling Great Wall and the Ming Tombs.

## Cook Chinese Home-style Dish

**Ants Climbing a Tree**  
(Mayi Shangshu)

By Wesley Lei

This Sichuan specialty is a popular fixture in Chinese restaurants of all varieties. It is both delicious, with an interesting mix of flavors and textures, and easy to make at home. Serves four.

**Ingredients:** 1/2 pound ground pork; 1 tablespoon light soy sauce; 1 tablespoon sugar; 1 teaspoon sesame oil; 1 small red chili; seeded and chopped; 1/2 teaspoon chili sauce or 1 tablespoon chili sauce; 2 slices ginger, finely chopped; 2 green onions, green and white sections, chopped; 4 ounces transparent bean thread noodles (also known also vermicelli or glass noodles); 1/4 cup water; oil for stir-frying.

**Directions:** Combine the marinated ingredients and marinate the ground pork for about 10 minutes. Without removing the string wrapping around the noodles, soak in hot water until they are pliable (about five minutes). Drain well. Cut the noodles into shorter lengths and then remove the string wrapping. Chop up the chili, ginger and green onions. Heat wok and add oil. Add the chili and ginger. Stir-fry one minute. Add the marinated pork. Once the pork has changed color, add the chili sauce, stirring in. Add the noodles, stirring again. Add the water and cook until most of the liquid is absorbed. Serve hot.

**Variation:** Sprinkle in a few drops of sesame oil at the end of cooking.

## Dining Out

By Wesley Lei

### Specialties of Hunan

Hunan cooking is celebrated for its fresh and fragrant dishes that combine sour and spice. Try authentic Hunan cooking from visiting Hunan chefs. **Where:** Shang Palace, Shangri-La Hotel **When:** March 17 - April 5 **Tel:** 6841 2211 ext. 2733

### Tuscany Food Promotion

Chef Paolo Panctti from Siena, Italy, presents a "Taste of Tuscany". Lunch and dinner buffets priced at 175 yuan plus 15 percent. **Where:** Silk Road Trattoria Italian Restaurant, Great Wall Sheraton Hotel **When:** March 20 - 29 **Tel:** 6590 5566 ext. 2117

### Strawberry Season

In the heart of strawberry season, enjoy a selection of mouth-watering desserts. Choices range from baked strawberry cakes to strawberry tarts, mousses and homemade ice creams. **Where:** Gourmet Corner, Jianguo Hotel **When:** until March 31 **Tel:** 6500 2233 ext. 8085

### All You Can Eat Dim Sum Lunch

Dim Sum delicacies prepared



A selection of Hunan cuisine at Shang Palace



## Jams



Chinese MC Brother

## Lucky Bands

Tonight Tongue (*Se Tou*) will play a combination of post-punk, metal and rock. On Saturday, CMCB (*Chinese MC Brother*) presents hip hop metal music. Sunday night Sky (*Tian Kong*), Convenience Store (*Bianli Shangdian*), Skyscraper (*Motianlou*) and others will take the stage.

**Where:** Get Lucky, 500 meters east of the south gate of University of International Business and Economics, Chaoyang **When:** 9:30 pm **Admission:** adults 40 yuan, students 30 yuan **Tel:** 6429 9109

## What at What

Jazz-folk-rock combo Beautiful Pharmacy (*Meihao Yaodian*) will perform tonight; tomorrow What (*Shenme*) will play their Frank Zappa-meets-Pink Floyd folk rock, and Slap (*Er-guang*) drops funky up hard rock. On March 27, Quasimodo will be on stage.

**Where:** What, opposite north gate of University of International Business and Economics, Chaoyang **When:** 9 pm **Admission:** 20 yuan **Tel:** 13910 209249

## Happy Night

DJs Jeremy from the USA and Richard from the UK will provide the soundtrack. 70s and 80s pop, disco, R&B and a 10 pm-midnight happy hour on Friday and Saturday nights.

**Where:** Lava Lounge, Xingfu Yicun, west side of the building that houses Orange **When:** daily 7 pm **Tel:** 6415 7413

## The Big Easy

Live music every day including local rhythm and blues legends the Rhythm Dogs on Fridays.

**Where:** Big Easy, Chaoyang Park south gate **When:** daily 5 pm - 2 am **Tel:** 6508 6776

## Movies



## Talk To Her

Directed by Pedro Almodovar, starring Dario Grandinetti and Javier Camara. The story tells about the friendship between two men, about loneliness and the long convalescence of the wounds provoked by passion. The film is about the joy of narration and about words as a weapon against solitude, disease, death and madness. Spanish with Chinese subtitles.

**Where:** Space for Imagination, 5 Xiwangzhuang Haidian **When:** March 22, 7 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 6279 1280



Starring: Licia Maglietta

Bread and Tulips  
(Pane e tulipan)

Directed by Silvio Soldini, starring Licia Maglietta. Rosalba Barletta, a middle-aged housewife, gets left behind at a road stop while touring with her family. Rather than a disaster, Rosalba makes it an opportunity to redefine her role as a woman by learning about life's most simple and essential pleasures. Italian with English subtitles.

**Where:** Cultural Office of Italian Embassy **When:** March 27, 7 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 6532 2187

## Judge Mother

Directed by Mu Deyuan, starring Xi Meijuan, Chen Sicheng, Zhao Youliang. Zhang Shuai was 15-years-old when he was sentenced to prison by the female judge, An Hui. Upon his re-

lease, the judge allows him to move in with her. The boy finds out that before she died, his mother sent the cash to the judge to help keep her son out of jail. Zhang Shuai tries to look for answers. Chinese with English subtitles.

**Where:** Cherry Lane Movies, 29 Liangmaqiao Lu **When:** March 21-22, 8 pm **Admission:** 40 yuan **Tel:** 6430 1398 **Email:** rex@cherrylanemovies.com.cn



Anhui(left) and Zhangshuai(right)

## One Fine Spring Day

Directed by Heo Jin-ho, starring Lee Young-ae, Yoo Ji-tae. Sang Wu works as a recording engineer in a studio. Han Eun-su is a young, attractive professional living alone after a short, failed marriage. As their relationship develops, things look promising for the long term. However nothing should ever be taken for granted. Korean with Chinese subtitles.

**Where:** Room 501, fifth floor Hyundai Millennium Tower, 38 Xiaoyunlu, Chaoyang **When:** March 28, 5:30 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 8453 8112



Sang Wu(left) and Han Eun-su(right)

## Stage

## Peking Opera

Beijing Peking Opera Theatre will present two operas including *King's Parting with His Favourite* and *Havoc in the Dragon's Palace*.

**Where:** Grand Chang'an Theatre, Jianguomennei Dajie **When:** March 22, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 60-800 yuan **Tel:** 6510 1310

I Love Peach Blossoms  
(Wo Ai Tao Hua)

Directed by Ren Ming, written by Zou Jingzhi, stage design by Zeng Li. The original play compares the ideals of love that are upheld in old and modern-day China.

**Where:** People's Art Experimental Theatre **When:** March 25, 7:15 **Tel:** 6524 9847, 6525 0996

Miraculous People  
in Worldly Life

Directed by Wang Xiangming, based on a novel by Feng Jicai, the play features three figures to explore the theme of fact and fiction in various aspects of arts and life. Performed by the Political Department of the Airline Drama Troupe.

**Where:** Small Theatre of the Beijing People's Art Theatre, 22 Wangfujing Dajie, Dongcheng **When:** till March 28, 7:15 pm **Admission:** 80 yuan **Tel:** 6525 0123

Light Up A Thousand  
Households

Directed by Lin Zhaoehua and Li Li-uyi, starring Song Dandan, this comedy celebrates the changing lives of common citizens.

**Where:** Capital Theatre **When:** till March 28, 7:15 pm **Admission:** 80-280 yuan **Tel:** 6524 9847



## Champaign (Yuan Ye)

Directed by Ding Ni, designed by Sun Haiying. A story sets in a small village in northern China, in which a boy struggles to kill his personal enemy.

**Where:** Children's Theater **When:** March 21-22, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 20-60 yuan **Tel:** 6512 9689

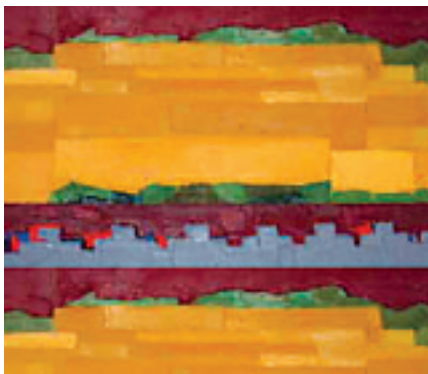
## Dance: Deer

Performed by the China Song and Dance Ensemble, the dance features various colorful dances of Chinese ethnic groups and centers on a theme of environmental protection. Hundreds of performers clad in colorful costumes,

presenting local dances in modern ways.

**Where:** Poly Theatre **When:** March 21, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 80-580 yuan **Tel:** 6500 1188 ext 5176

## Exhibitions



Old city by Wang Chang

## Oil Painting Exhibition

Wang Chang is a graduate of the Beijing Aviation Academy. His paintings have been purchased by the Chinese Art Museum and History Museum. The themes of his paintings reflect the depth of perception, love of nature, and the sanctity of life.

**Where:** Creation Gallery, north end of Ritan Donglu **When:** March 29 - April 6, 10 am - 7 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 8561 7570



Painting by Huang Youwei

Modern Realists' New  
Deduction

This exhibition features 40 watercolor paintings by Huang Youwei, Jiang Chun and Yu Jiantao. Huang Youwei is skilled in depicting Beijing hutong, the water village of Jiangnan and flowers. Young artist Yu Jiantao comes from Dalian. His works are about the sea, trees and small islands, things he is familiar with and has a deep love for.

**Where:** Wanfung Gallery, 136 Nanchizi Dajie **When:** March 22 - April 8, 10 am - 7 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 6523 3320



Painting by Huang Axiang

## Dialogue and Merge

An exhibition by six young artists with a common theme of natural beauty. Includes prints by Sun Huili and Su Ming; ink and wash paintings by Huang Axiang and Leng Shaoqiang and oil paintings by Liu Yihua and Xiao Fangkai.

**Where:** Beijing New Millennium Art Gallery, Second Floor, Diyang Building, 2 East North Third Ring Road, **When:** till April 4, 9 am - 6 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 8453 6193

## Oil Exhibition

Twenty artists, including Wen Lipeng, Yang Feiyun, Luo Lizhong and Jaing Guofang.

**Where:** East Gallery, Deshengmen Watchtower, North Second Ring Road, Xicheng **When:** March 29 - April 23, 9 am - 5 pm (closed Mondays) **Admission:** free **Tel:** 8201 4962

## Collective Exhibition

A group of major Chinese contemporary artists including Bai Yiluo and Yang Fudong. The exhibits highlight Bai Yiluo's collage of 2,000 portraits, which form faint representations of history's major proponents of Communism. Yang Fudong will screen his black and white film.

**Where:** Beijing Tokyo Art Projects **When:** March 21-28, (Tuesday - Sunday) 10:30 am - 6:30 pm **Tel:** 8457 3245

## Ink Drawings

Beijinger Tian Xifeng specializes in traditional ink drawings. His award-winning works often feature flowers and birds.

**Where:** Melodic Art Gallery **When:** till March 31, 9 am - 5 pm **Admission:**

free **Tel:** 6515 8123

## He Sen Solo Exhibition

He Sen, from Sichuan Province, paints his blurred, sensual, portraits of women from photographs projected onto a screen. This is his third solo exhibition.

**Where:** Red Gate Gallery **When:** till April 3, (closed Mondays), 10 am - 5 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 6525 1005

## Four Artists Exhibition

This exhibition features recent works by Xiao Se, Xiao Hong Yu Xiaodong and Liu Fengye. Oil painting "Soldier's Series" by Liu Fengye features guards of the Qin Dynasty and Little Red Guards of the Cultural Revolution. Xiao Se's oil paintings humorously explore the complexities of society and shortcomings of ordinary people.

**Where:** Qin Gallery, Huaweili Enjoy Paradise1-1E (north of Beijing Curio City) Chaoyang **When:** till April 15, 9:30 am - 7 pm **Admission:** free **Tel:** 8779 0461



Painting by Liu Fengye

## Music

## Spring is in the Air

The Xinhai Choir, in affiliation with the China National Musicians Association, is to present a concert hailing the coming of spring. Qiu Li and Li Delin will conduct. The program includes *When We Were Young*, *To Alice* and *Young Shepard's Pipe*.

**Where:** Concert Hall of National Library, Zhongguancun Nandajie **When:** March 23, 2:30 pm **Admission:** 10-30 yuan **Tel:** 8854 5731



The Siberian Philharmonic Orchestra

## Poems and Symphonic Concert

The Siberian Philharmonic Orchestra will play works by famous composers, including Tchaikovsky. Chinese film actors, such as Song Chunli, Jü Xue, and Xu Tao will recite Russian poems by Pushkin and others. The conductor is Lin Tao, artistic director and chief conductor of the Russian Siberian Philharmonic Orchestra.

**Where:** Great Hall of the People **When:** March 28-29, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 80-680 yuan **Tel:** 6528 7674 ext 518

## Sing for the East

Accompanied by the Symphony Orchestra of China National Opera and Dance Theatre, tenors Yu Jixing, Liu Weiwei, Du Jiegang, Li Honghui and Zhao Dengfeng will perform. The conductors are Gao Weichun and Zhu Xin. Pai Jieke from Phoenix TV will host the concert.

**Where:** Beijing Exhibition Theatre **When:** March 21, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 80-880 yuan **Tel:** 6835 4455



Irish Chamber Orchestra

Irish Chamber Orchestra  
Beijing Tour

The Irish Chamber Orchestra is one of Ireland's most accomplished ensembles. Consisting of the crème de la crème of Irish string players, this orchestra has received plaudits

both at home and abroad for its high standards of performance. Under the artistic direction of Fionnuala Hunt, and with the appointment in 1998 of celebrated conductor and violinist, Bruno Giuranna as principal guest conductor, the orchestra continues to give a new and refreshing perspective on the chamber music repertoire through its inimitable approach to performance.

**Where:** Forbidden City Concert Hall **When:** March 28, 7:30 pm **Admission:** 80-580 yuan **Tel:** 6568 5257, 6568 5271 **Email:** cac520@sohu.com

## Sports

## The Triangle Hike

This route is not especially steep. Starting from a tiny village, the trail leads up the valley to a granite hilltop with commanding views of the surrounding mountains, including the white granite boulders on the scenic Iron Mountain. Continuing down the hill, the trail passes a pine forest where we take a lunch break. Walk down the country lane and hike through orchards to reach another hilltop. Battles were fought here during the Second World War. Descending the hill passing springs, birch woods, orchards, a stream and a riverbed.

**Where:** Changping, north of Beijing **When:** March 23, meet 8:30 am outside Starbucks at Lido Hotel, or 9 am at Capital Paradise front gate, return 5 pm **Admission:** adults 150 yuan, children 100 yuan **Tel:** 13701 003694 **Email:** bjhikers@yahoo.co.uk

## Footballers needed!

New and experienced amateur footballers of all levels of ability are invited to join Club Football's new and existing men's amateur football teams. Teams play regular 11-a-side league matches, on grass, beginning in April at the Western Academy Beijing on Saturday afternoons, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. For women, sessions are also held from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

**Where:** Room 25, 10 Chunxiu Lu, Dongzhimenwai, Chaoyang **Tel:** 6417 0495, 13911 819237

## Activities

## Night with Ease

Free beer for those who arrive early enough. Lucky draw prizes by Magellan International Movers with bottle of champagne, Evolution Fitness club memberships and tickets for the Beijing Rugby 7s on April 5 and 6.

**Where:** Sgt. Pepper's, west gate of Chaoyang Park **When:** March 26 **Admission:** 150 yuan **Tel:** 6500 8088

## Language Exchange

A Beijing girl has a clear understanding of Beijing culture. She wants to find a native English boy to practice English.

**Email:** pengjiwei@etang.com **Tel:** 13810 05027

## Lecture



Calendula

## Herbal Drinks

China has a long tradition of therapeutic drinks, from the usual tea leaves through to flowers, bamboo and lotus leaves, and sweet herbal medicines, which nourish the body and cure almost every conceivable ailment. This week, Doctor Li Xin will introduce the five formulas of herbal drinks essential for keeping fit, aiding sleep, soothing stomachaches, reducing stress and fatigue, and protecting against flu and colds. Sample available during the lecture. English translation provided.

**Where:** Lee's Antique Carpets, Liangmaqiao Lu, near 21st Century Hotel **When:** March 22, 2-4 pm **Admission:** adults 50 yuan, students 30 yuan **Tel:** 8462 2081

We are glad to receive your feedback. We will print employment, language exchange and accommodation info for individuals. Feel free to email us at [bjtodayinfo@ynet.com](mailto:bjtodayinfo@ynet.com) or call 6590 2522  
By Guo Yuandan





Photo provided by Fenxing

By James Liu

Zorro has long been a popular figure in China, and just as in other countries all around the world, has inspired countless kids to put on a mask and cape and ruthlessly dispatch wave after wave of villains with the flourish of a stick.

But, gallantry of the sword waving Zorro notwithstanding, there are also many fencing enthusiasts who are drawn to the sport for its mind-game appeal.

Beijing's first privately run fencing club, Beijing Fenxing Fencing Club, opened in 1999.

Beijing Today spoke to Dan Lundesgaard, a Norwegian who has competed in national and international fencing competitions in Europe, and is now studying acupuncture and massage in Beijing. "There is a good atmosphere and the people here are friendly to me. I had been to the one at the Olympic Center, but I got no instruction there," Lundesgaard said during a short break in training.

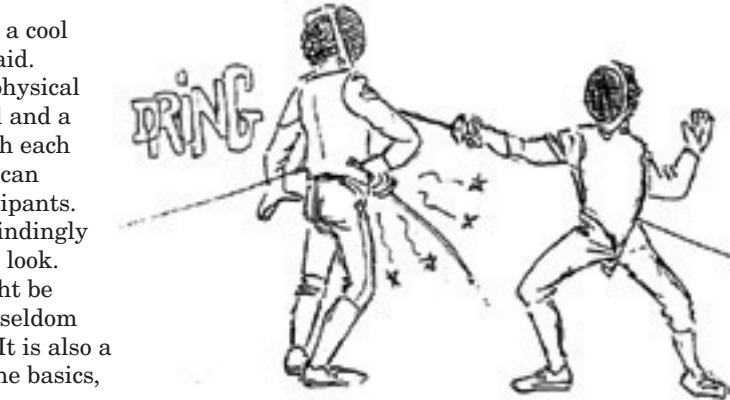
He said he felt lucky to have found somewhere in Beijing with skilled opponents to practice against. "It's a fascinating sport. Strength is not enough. It's a combination of good physique and a cool head," the 1.9-meter Norwegian said.

Fencing is often described as "physical chess." It requires physical control and a high level of concentration. Though each round lasts only three minutes, it can seem like an eternity to the participants.

While it is intense and often blindingly fast, fencing is safer than it might look. A direct hit by your opponent might be momentarily painful, but blood is seldom drawn, and even bruising is rare. It is also a sport of which it is easy to learn the basics, but extremely difficult to master.

Foil, saber, and épée are the three types competition in fencing. Épée is closest to actual combat. Fencers can strike any part of their opponents' body, while in saber and foil competitions, only specific parts of the body can be hit. Also, with saber and foil, there is a clear definition in attack and defense.

When one contestant attacks, the other can only back and defend. Counter attacking is not allowed until the attack is finished. Then, it is the defender's turn to attack. Competitors follow this ritual until one round ends.



Pictures provided by Shanlin

Saber and foil differ in the way the opponent is struck, slashing with the saber and stabbing with the foil.

Among the three varieties, épée is the easiest, but beginners are advised to start with saber, according to Shanlin Fencing Club coach Gao Lei, because the complex rules for saber and foil are essentially the same, and one should learn how to stab, before attempting a slash.

Most aficionados agree that the appeal of fencing lies in the discipline it entails — the need for strict coordination of mind and body. "Big muscles are easy to develop, but the way you practice fencing is different from building up muscles," said Lundesgaard. "It is not a game that a person wins or loses. It is more like a mind game."

It can also be a good sport for children. The age of 10 to 12 is said to be the best time to start learning, and it is an excellent way of overcoming shyness and lack of self confidence. "It can improve mental abilities and there are no risks of overdoing it or injury," said Lundesgaard.

Rules governing equipment are very strict, in order to ensure the safety of those who practice the sport. The cost for a full set of suit and a sword starts from about 2,000 yuan.

Following are details of four fencing clubs in Beijing.

#### Shanlin Fencing Club

Where: Yuetan Gymnasium, 1A Yuetan Nanjie, Xicheng  
Tel: 6801 5822  
Average cost: 60 yuan for two hours

#### Fenxing Fencing Club

Where: Olympic Center, 3A Anding Lu, Chaoyang  
Tel: 6492 9041  
Average cost: 60 yuan for two hours

#### Dawei Fencing Club

Where: 116 Anwai Dajie, Dongcheng  
Tel: 6499 1175  
Average cost: 60 yuan for two hours

#### Donghuan Fencing Club

Where: 29 Dongzhong Jie, Dongcheng  
Tel: 6417 1188 ext. 5888  
Average cost: 80 yuan for three hours

#### WALL WALKS

## Huangyaguan Great Wall

By Lisa Huang

Around 120 kilometers north of Tianjin, there is a 42-kilometer section of Great Wall rarely visited by overseas tourists. Construction of the Huangyaguan Great Wall (黄崖关长城) started in 557 under the Northern Qi Dynasty. It was rebuilt during the Sui and Ming dynasties, with 14 beacon towers and 52 guard towers, connecting Malanguan Pass in the east and Pinggu Jiangjungan Pass in the west.

#### Huangyaguan Fort (黄崖关)

Built during the reign of Emperor Yongle (1402-1424) of the Ming Dynasty, Huangyaguan Fort stands on top of a steep hill. The characters "Huang Ya Guan" can be seen inscribed on a white marble tablet above the south gate.

The soldiers who guarded this stretch of wall are long gone, and the fort now serves as a village, housing some 250 families. The streets are laid out in accordance with the Eight Diagrams, or *Ba Gua*. There is a Great Wall museum in the village, with a collection of ancient weapons and stone inscriptions. There is also a group of stone tablets engraved with the calligraphy of Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping.

#### Taipingzhai (太平寨)

The Taipingzhai section lies one kilometer southeast of Huangyaguan. The wall winds its way over the ridges of steep mountains for almost 900 meters, preventing access to the mountains and valleys east of Huangyaguan Pass.

The Wall here has somewhat different features from other



parts, built with bricks and stones embedded inside the walls. There are six watchtowers, one battlement and one side door.

Within the square fronting the side door, a nine-meter statue commemorates Qi Jiguang, a famous general of the Ming Dynasty who fought against invaders from Japan and otherwise honorably defended the country's border.

#### Widow Building (寡妇楼)

A little to the west of Taipingzhai stands a two-story stone building. According to legend, it was constructed with donations from twelve widows whose husbands were recruited to build the Great Wall and were never again seen by their families. Hence the name Guafu Lou, or the Widow Building.

The ground floor is divided into four halls by four pillars. The top section of the building is a rectangular room. Auspicious dragon, phoenix and lion designs adorn the eaves.

**Getting there:** Take the Shunyi exit from the North Fourth Ring Road, pass the Shunyi traffic circle, then Jinhai Lake (金海湖), and you will come to Huangyaguan Resort. The drive takes about one and a half hours. Alternatively take bus 918 (10 yuan) from Dongzhimen long distance bus station directly to Huangyaguan.

#### MUSEUM WATCH

## Ancient Pottery Civilization



Tang Dynasty painted pottery jar



Han Dynasty pottery jar



Neolithic painted pottery  
Photos by Cui Hao

By Guo Yuandan

Pottery is among the earliest crafts practiced by mankind, and ancient Chinese pottery occupies an important place in the history of world civilization.

The Museum of Ancient Pottery Civilization (古陶文明博物馆) features examples of painted pottery developed in the mid Neolithic Age, brick making of the Qin Dynasty, tiles from the Han Dynasty and more.

The interests of Lu Dongzhi, curator and founder of the museum, include painting, writing, calligraphy and collecting. It took him ten years of hard work to put together the collection on which the museum is based.

The 3,000-odd pieces cover four themes: painted pottery wares of the Neolithic Age, eave tiles of the Warring States Period and the Qin and Han dynasties, clay seals of the Qin and Han dynasties and pottery ware of the Han and Tang dynasties.

Some 300 vividly painted pottery wares from the Yellow River Valley have been dated to the Neolithic Age (5,000 years ago).

The eave tiles, which were placed at the end of rafters as a means of keeping out the elements, are decorated with a variety of motifs, including totems, depictions of court life, place names and propitious characters.

Clay seals were used to seal documents, letters and cargoes before the Han Dynasty, when the invention of paper rendered them redundant. Thousands of examples of these clay seals shed light on the administrative system of stamping, sealing, message transmission, accounting and taxation during the Qin and Han dynasties.

Other exhibits reveal the epitome of ancient Chinese pottery from different periods, in terms of the making, usage and aesthetic attitudes, giving a vivid history of ancient pottery.

**Where:** 12 You'anmennei, Xijie, Xuanwu **Open:** 9 am - 5 pm (closed Mondays) **Admission:** 20 yuan **Tel:** 6353 8811